

# African Violet

## MAGAZINE



**Best Varieties List P. 12**

**An Experiment with Bloom Stalk Propagation P. 34**

**Decouping Water Reservoirs to Minimize Algae P. 48**

# AVSA Information

## FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY

For accurate service, send your inquiries to the correct person.  
Always include your name and address.

### ■ AVSA Business

- **AVSA Office Address:** AVSA, P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, TX 77720
- **Office Manager:** Amy Carruth (844) 400-AVSA (2872); (409) 839-4725; Fax (409) 839-4329.  
*Email:* avsa@earthlink.net.
- Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. CT.
- **Official Correspondence:** AVSA Secretary, P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, TX 77720. *Email:* secretary@avsa.org.

### ■ Membership and Affiliates

- **New or Renewal Membership:** Membership application available on page 55 of this issue or at [www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org/participate/membership](http://www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org/participate/membership). Send check payable to AVSA in U.S. dollars from a U.S. bank; VISA or Mastercard for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office; or pay online.
- **Change of Address:** Send new address to AVSA Office at least 30 days before it is to take effect, along with old address.
- **Membership Cards:** Sent to Associate Members. Renewing members receive card on white protective cover of *AVM*.
- **Membership Committee:** Send ideas, offers to help and requests for assistance to Stephen Covolo-Hudson.  
*Email:* membership@avsa.org.
- **Affiliate Committee:** For information on how to organize a chapter, write Mary Thompson. *Email:* affiliate@avsa.org.

### ■ Shows and Judges

- **Shows and Judges Committee:** Mary Corondan.  
*Email:* judges@avsa.org.
- **Show Schedule Approval:** For information on Shows, AVSA Awards and approving schedules, email Susan Anderson at [showschedule@avsa.org](mailto:showschedule@avsa.org) and attach a copy of your show schedule.
- **Order AVSA Rosettes:** SSA Packet with no rosettes \$5. Orders for rosettes must be specific as to which is needed — standard, species, mini-semi; they can be mixed color and size, all same price. All rosettes are \$12.00 each, added to price of SSA packet.
- **Judging School:** To register a judging school, send request to Ruth Loomis. *Email:* [ruthloomis@msn.com](mailto:ruthloomis@msn.com). A registration fee of \$15 is required and should be sent to the AVSA Office.
- **Judges' Duplicate Cards:** Send self-addressed, stamped envelope to Mary Corondan, 434 Plumwood Way, Fairview, TX 75069. *Email:* judges@avsa.org.

### ■ AVSA Fundraising

- **Fundraising:** Randy G. Deutsch, Chair.  
*Email:* fundraising@avsa.org.
- **Funds:** Booster Donations, Boyce Edens Research Fund, Barbara Burde Endowment Fund, Anne & Frank Tinari Endowment Fund.
- **Payment:** Contribute through the website or mail to AVSA Office; please designate fund.

### ■ African Violet Magazine

- **AVM Editor:** Sophia Bennett, P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, TX 77720. *Email:* editor@avsa.org.
- **Copyright:** Copyrighted 2023, The African Violet Society of America, Inc., all rights reserved. Reproduction, in whole or in part, in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without permission is prohibited. All articles are property of AVSA and must not be reprinted without Editor's permission.
- **Publication Deadlines:** Jan. issue: Nov. 1; Mar. issue: Jan. 1; May issue: Mar. 1; July issue: May 1; Sept. issue: July 1; Nov. issue: Sept. 1.
- **Articles, Columns and Memorials:** Send to Editor by publication deadline.
- **Coming Events:** Send to Editor or fill out event form on [www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org](http://www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org) by publication deadline.
- **Advertising Rates and Information:** Richard Craft, Chair. *Email:* advertising@avsa.org. Send advertising to Chair by publication deadline.
- **Back Issues:** Complete your set now. Request price list of available issues from AVSA Office. Send SASE for list or download from the AVSA Store.

### ■ International Registrar

- **Plant Registration:** Dr. Jeff Smith.  
*Email:* [registration@avsa.org](mailto:registration@avsa.org).
- **Master Varieties List (AMVL) & Supplements:** Download from AVSA website or order from AVSA office for \$2. Orders in writing only. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Joe Bruns.
- **Research:** Send suggested projects for scientific research or names of interested, qualified, potential research personnel to Dr. Jeff Smith.  
*Email:* [research@avsa.org](mailto:research@avsa.org).
- **AVSA Scholarship Program:** Dr. Charles Ramser.  
*Email:* [scholarship@avsa.org](mailto:scholarship@avsa.org).

### ■ AVSA Convention

- **Convention:** Kathy Lahti, Convention Chair.  
*Email:* [convention@avsa.org](mailto:convention@avsa.org).
- **2024 Convention:** April 21-28, DoubleTree Phoenix Tempe Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona.
- **Future Dates:** If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Convention Chair.
- **Convention Programs:** Send special requests for workshop programs or interesting speakers to Convention Chair.
- **Convention Awards:** Send suggestions to Terri Post.  
*Email:* [awards@avsa.org](mailto:awards@avsa.org). Send contributions to AVSA Office.
- **Commercial Activities, Sales and Exhibits:** For information on convention entries or sales room, contact Kathy Bell. *Email:* [commercials@avsa.org](mailto:commercials@avsa.org).

Join, renew and learn more at [www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org](http://www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org)

The African Violet Magazine (ISSN 0002-0265) is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September, November. Periodical postage is paid by The African Violet Society of America, Inc., a nonprofit organization at P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, TX 77720 and at additional mailing offices.

Subscription \$35 per year, which is included in membership dues • Copyright 2023, The African Violet Society of America, Inc. POSTMASTER: Please send change of address form 3579 to African Violet Magazine • P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, TX 77720

# African Violet MAGAZINE

Volume 76 Number 6

ON THE COVER:  
LE-Rozhdenie Galactiki  
Hybridized by: E. Lebeteskaia  
Grown by: Marge Farrand  
Standard  
Photo credit: Winston J. Goretsky



## AVSA NEWS

President's Message—Mary Corondan . . . . .	3	Violets Most Wanted—Mary Thompson. . . . .	21
Editor's Notes—Sophia Bennett . . . . .	4	Mark Your Calendar for the	
AVSA Office Update—Amy Carruth . . . . .	5	Virtual Circle—Sandy Soto . . . . .	22
AVM Article and		How an AVSA Affiliate has	
Column Deadlines . . . . .	5	Thrived for 75 Years—Bill Schmidt. . . . .	24
Coming Events . . . . .	6	Meet the Article	
Award-Winning Plants from the AVSA		Contest Winners—Sophia Bennett. . . . .	27
National Convention—Sophia Bennett. . . . .	8	Anne and Frank Tinari	
Shows and Judges—Mary Corondan . . . . .	11	Endowment Fund—Janet Riemer. . . . .	51
AVSA Best Varieties List—Trudy Brekel . . . . .	12	Barbara Burde	
AVSA Honor Roll of		Endowment Fund—Randy G. Deutsch. . . . .	51
African Violets—Trudy Brekel . . . . .	14	Booster Donations—Randy G. Deutsch . . . . .	51
AVSA Awards a		Boyce Edens	
Pair of Scholarships—Sophia Bennett . . . . .	17	Research Fund—Randy G. Deutsch. . . . .	51
And the Winners Are—Mary Corondan . . . . .	18	Statement of Ownership . . . . .	52
Be an AVSA		In Memory . . . . .	54
Booster This Year—Randy G. Deutsch . . . . .	19	AVSA Membership Application . . . . .	55
Registration Report—Dr. Jeff Smith . . . . .	20	AVSA Order Form . . . . .	56

## FEATURED PHOTOGRAPHS

Cajun's Pandemic Blues—B. Thibodeaux . . . . .	7	N-Berezovyi Sok—N. Berdnikova. . . . .	37
EL-Trinadtsat' Karat—L. Eremenko . . . . .	23	RS-Solnechnoe Kruzhevo—S. Repkina . . . . .	40
BR-Osiris—S. and N. Burkatskii. . . . .	31	EK-Veselaia Klumba—E. Korshunova . . . . .	45
<i>Sinningia Speciosa</i>		LiK-Esenenskii Koster—G. Lazarenko . . . . .	45
'EN-Chernyi Kardinal'—E. Nikolaeva. . . . .	36	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'MK-Miroslava'—M. Karpova . . . . .	55

## FEATURES

In Search of		An Experiment with Bloom	
New Violets—Dr. Jeff Smith. . . . .	28	Stalk Propagation—Marge Farrand . . . . .	34
Family Portrait:		Protecting African Violets During	
<i>Seemannia purpurascens</i> —Mel Grice . . . . .	32	Home Renovations—Beverly Wombold . . . . .	38

## CONVENTION

Fun Day Trips to Explore Phoenix During Convention—Candace Baldwin. . . . .	42
---	----

## COLOR COMMENTARY

AV Creative Corner:		Decoupage Water Reservoirs to	
Hat Contest—Rich Follett. . . . .	46	Minimize Algae—Cilene Magnine. . . . .	48
When I am Invited to Give a		Treasures to	
Talk on African Violets—Leonard Re . . . . .	47	Adore—Hollye Knox. . . . .	50



# African Violet Society of America

# Index of Advertisers

## OFFICERS

**Mary Corondan**, President  
email: president@avsa.org

**Glenda Williams**, 1st Vice President  
email: firstvp@avsa.org

**Rich Follett**, 2nd Vice President  
email: secondvp@avsa.org

**Richard Craft**, 3rd Vice President  
email: thirdvp@avsa.org

**Terri Post**, Treasurer  
email: treasurer@avsa.org

**Sue Ramser**, Secretary  
email: secretary@avsa.org

**Susan Anderson**, Past President  
email: pastpresident@avsa.org

## AVM COMMITTEES

**Jill Jensen**, Chair of Editorial Board  
email: editorialboard@avsa.org

**Richard Craft**, Advertising Chair  
email: advertising@avsa.org

**Sandra Skalski**, Chair of Publications Committee  
email: publications@avsa.org

## STAFF

**Sophia Bennett**, Editor  
P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, TX 77720  
email: editor@avsa.org

**Shirley Jones**, Desktop Publisher  
email: desktoppublisher@avsa.org

**Amy Carruth**, Office Manager  
P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, TX 77720  
email: avsa@earthlink.net

American Orchid Society .....	58
AVS of Canada.....	58
AVSA Calendar .....	41
AVSA Drinkware.....	35
AVSA Membership.....	15
Dandy Pots .....	59
Dave's Violets.....	59
Enchanted Gardens.....	59
Gesneriad Society .....	58
Glenda's House of Violets .....	59
Growing to Show .....	60
JoS Violets .....	59
Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses .....	60
Perfectly Pittman DVD in AVSA Store .....	30
Rolling Ridge Rosettes .... Inside Back Cover	
Physan 20 .....	60
Swift Moist-Rite Planter... Inside Back Cover	
The Violet Barn .....	Back Cover
VDM Designs .....	Inside Back Cover
Violet Supply .....	Inside Back Cover

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.



# President's Message

By Mary Corondan

Email: [president@avsa.org](mailto:president@avsa.org)

What a tremendous response we had from the survey that was sent out to all Atlanta convention attendees. I want to express my sincere appreciation to the 91% of you who shared your thoughts on what you enjoyed about the convention in Atlanta and what could be improved. Keeping the lines of communication open will help the African Violet Society of America move forward with a more successful convention experience.

It is the time of the year when thoughts turn toward donations to various tax-exempt organizations. Giving Tuesday is close at hand. Although many 501(c)3 organizations make requests monthly, AVSA makes this request just once a year. Of course, you are encouraged to donate whenever and wherever you prefer. AVSA giving opportunities include the Barbara Burde Fund, Boyce Edens Research Fund and Tinari Endowment Fund. If you do not have a particular fund in mind, please consider a Booster donation. This donation helps with the general expenses of AVSA. Since the last two conventions have produced no revenue for AVSA, there is a real need there. Donations can be sent to the AVSA office or made online. For more information on donations, refer to Randy Deutsch's article on page 19 of this issue.

Since gift-giving season is quickly approaching, you may want to consider purchasing merchandise from the AVSA Store. There are several publications available, and a new 2024 calendar always makes a great gift for a holiday gift exchange.

The membership promotion is well underway. This is the perfect opportunity to gift memberships or encourage 100% AVSA membership from your local affiliate members.

The Virtual Circle Zoom programs will launch on November 12. This project has been in the works since the Cyber Convention and is finally coming to fruition. It is a pleasure to have Kathy Lahti, three-time AVSA Best in Show winner, speak to the membership on "Preparing for Show." This program is available to all AVSA members. Those who are not members can join as a digital member for only \$28 and have access to all Virtual Circle programs. Information on registering for the Zoom session will be emailed to all members, so be sure the office has your correct email address on file. You may want to mark your calendar for the second Virtual Circle Zoom presentation on Saturday, January 13. The January Zoom meeting will focus on a Phoenix convention preview. Save that date!

As you are probably aware, the 2024 Phoenix convention will be about a month earlier than previous conventions. The dates will be April 21 to 28, and the convention will be held at the DoubleTree in Tempe. The weather in Arizona will be much more comfortable in April than in late May and early June. Candace Baldwin, Joyce Stork, Susan Anderson and Bill Patterson are working hard to get everything accomplished early. The goal is to begin online registration in December.



# Editor's Notes

By Sophia Bennett

Email: [editor@avsa.org](mailto:editor@avsa.org)

My family and I recently adopted two kittens (an orange tabby and a calico). They're an absolute joy — but they also mean “baby proofing” the house again, less time spent away from home and less sleep as we get them adjusted to their new environment.

Change is inevitable. It's not always easy, but it can be a good thing. Perhaps you're making some needed upgrades to your home but are worried about protecting your plants while you do. That's the situation Beverly Wombold found herself in, and she came up with some great ideas for keeping her plants safe from outdoor pests while her home's windows were being replaced (page 38).

Maybe you're frustrated with your current method of propagating chimeras and would like to try something new. Check out Marge Farrand's piece on this very topic on page 34 (and her thoughts on why in this case, change was not helpful). Bill Schmidt has a nice reflection on how changing to keep up with the times has helped the Richmond African Violet Society thrive for 75 years now. Read all about it on page 24. He shares several great ideas for club activities that may inspire you to try something different.

One change that's coming to AVSA after the first of the year is an increase in the prices

for membership and many of the items available in the AVSA Store. These take effect January 1, so now is the time to renew your membership (or join AVSA) or buy any materials you need at current prices. More details about these rate increases will be coming to your email inbox soon.

Here are some *AVM* features that have stayed consistent: This year's Best Varieties List is on page 12 and the Honor Roll of African Violets is on page 14. These handy lists are shared annually to give members ideas about plants that are easy and enjoyable to grow. Dr. Jeff Smith shares wisdom on page 28 and Mel Grice introduces us to a beautiful gesneriad, *Seemannia purpurascens*, on page 32. You'll notice several additions coming to First Class, as there are many African violets hybrids that were recently registered with AVSA (page 20).

The 2023 Article Contest is coming to a close, but please keep sending your articles and article ideas. I love getting to work with new people and seeing fresh names on these pages.

I wish you and all your family and friends a wonderful holiday season and peaceful beginning to 2024.



# AVSA Office Update

By Amy Carruth

Email: [avsa@earthlink.net](mailto:avsa@earthlink.net)

Most clubs are entering their busy time of year. Please make sure your club's information is up to date on the website as well as with the office. If your club needs insurance for your meeting and/or show, please email the office at [avsa@earthlink.net](mailto:avsa@earthlink.net). In the email, include the name of your club, name and address of the meeting/show location and the dates of any events. The cost for insurance is \$6 per member and will need to be paid before issuing a certificate. Insurance renewals for 2024 will be mailed out toward the end of November.

We still have several back issues of *African Violet Magazine* available for the cost of postage. These are great to bring to your meetings and shows to pass on to new members and help promote AVSA. Around 25 to 30

magazines can fit in a flat rate box for \$17.10. You can purchase these by contacting the office.

If you need supplies for your show and sale, please allow adequate time for your order to be processed and delivered.

Make sure you have subscribed to our two newsletters, AVSA Growing Tips and AVSA News for Members. If you would like to subscribe, please visit our website, [www.africανvioletsocietyofamerica.org](http://www.africανvioletsocietyofamerica.org), and click Email Subscribe on the top right.

If you have any trouble logging in to your member account, please contact the office for assistance. Please do not create a new account if you are already an AVSA member.

## *African Violet Magazine* Article and Column Deadlines

- January/February issue: November 1
- March/April issue: January 1
- May/June issue: March 1
- July/August issue: May 1
- September/October issue: July 1
- November/December issue: September 1

We would love to hear from you! Please send articles or article ideas for the *AVM* to Sophia Bennett at [editor@avsa.org](mailto:editor@avsa.org).

# Coming Events

Check the AVSA Events page ([www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org/events](http://www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org/events)), search the local club on Facebook or contact the organizers listed below for the latest information on these events.

## ■ November 3-4 — Pennsylvania

Mid-Atlantic African Violet Society  
“Violets in the Animal Kingdom”  
31st Annual Convention  
Gateway Wyndham Gettysburg  
95 Presidential Circle  
Gettysburg, PA  
Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

## ■ November 14 — Arizona

Desert Sun African Violet and  
Gesneriad Society  
“Violets on Broadway” Show  
Valley Garden Center  
1809 N. 15th Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ  
Tuesday: 11a.m.-1 p.m.  
JoAnne DeAngelo:  
[DesertSunAVSociety@gmail.com](mailto:DesertSunAVSociety@gmail.com)  
William Lee Patterson:  
[DesertSunAVSociety@gmail.com](mailto:DesertSunAVSociety@gmail.com)

## ■ March 1-3 — California

Central California African Violet Society  
“Violets Read Arabian Nights” Plant Sale  
Fresno Fairgrounds  
1121 S. Chance Ave.  
Fresno, CA  
Friday-Sunday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Teri Watkins: [watkins2176@sbcglobal.net](mailto:watkins2176@sbcglobal.net)

## ■ March 23 — Delaware

Delaware African Violet and  
Gesneriad Society  
Display and Plant Sale  
Boscovs Department Store  
Christiana Town Center  
Route 273  
Christiana, DE  
Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Bobbie LaFashia: [rlafash@comcast.net](mailto:rlafash@comcast.net)

## Worm Castings for African Violets

Did you know that using worm castings or casting tea in your potting mix can discourage or even kill pests? Worm castings actively repel white flies, aphids, spider mites and other pests that feed on plant tissue. Castings in the soil increase the production of enzymes that can destroy

the exoskeletons of insects that feed on the plants. This discourages their feeding behavior and can damage or kill them if they do feed on your plants. For more information on worm castings and casting tea, visit the North Carolina State Extension’s vermiculture page on their website.





Photo credit: Belinda Thibodeaux

## **Cajun's Pandemic Blues**

Hybridized by: B. Thibodeaux  
Standard

# Award-Winning Plants from the 2023 AVSA Convention

By Sophia Bennett

Email: [editor@avsa.org](mailto:editor@avsa.org)

We continue our showcase of award-winning plants from the 2023 AVSA Convention

show with these eight specimens. All photos by Winston J. Goretsky.



## **Best in Show (Commercial) Optimara EverPrecious**

Hybridized by: R. Holtkamp  
Grown by: Linda Rowe  
Large



## **2nd Best AVSA Collection-Minis and Semis/Amateur Optimara Little Crystal**

Hybridized by: Holtkamp  
Grown by: Kathy Lahti  
Miniature



**2nd Best  
Buckeye Collection  
Buckeye Let's Roll**

Hybridized by: P. Hancock  
Grown by: Karen Buchanan  
Large



**Judges Special Award  
Columnea 'Midget'**

Grown by: Paul Sorano



**Rob's Outer Orbit**

Hybridized by: R. Robinson  
Grown by: Marge Farrand  
Semiminiature





### **Rob's Wagga Wagga**

Hybridized by: R. Robinson  
Grown by: Johnnie Berry  
Semiminiature trailer



### **RS-Kumir**

Hybridized by: S. Repkina  
Grown by: Marge Farrand  
Standard



### ***Episcia* 'Thad's Yellow Bird'**

Grown by: Linda Hall



# Shows and Judges

By Mary Corondan

Email: [judges@avsa.org](mailto:judges@avsa.org)

The fall shows have now concluded, and it is time to prepare for spring shows. Be sure to keep affiliate memberships as well as affiliate insurance up to date. A renewal notice is sent to affiliates in the month of November, so look forward to it arriving soon. If other affiliates are participating in a combined show or sale, they should all have a current AVSA affiliate membership as well as their own affiliate insurance. All clubs participating should be mentioned in the show schedule unless it is a council show. In that case, the council would have an affiliate membership and insurance. This ensures there is no question of liability if an unfortunate event should occur at a show or sale.

Encourage those in your club to attend the AVSA convention in Phoenix in 2024. Convention information and registration will be at [www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org](http://www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org) soon. In addition, a Virtual Circle Zoom program will be presented on January 12 as a sneak preview of the exciting upcoming convention highlights. This will feature our convention leaders: Candace Baldwin, Joyce Stork, Susan Anderson and Bill Patterson. Information about this Virtual Circle meeting is posted on

the website and will also be found in an email coming soon to your inbox. Get the inside scoop!

The Shows and Judges Committee and Executive Committee have approved the following updates to the 2022 *AVSA Handbook for Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges*.

[Handbook change \(2022 edition\) p.11 \(foot-note\)](#)

**Commercial growers** are individuals or firms that advertise and sell African violet plants and/or other materials; pay commercial AVSA Membership dues.

[Handbook change, page 74. 1.](#)

~~1. All AVSA commercial members may enter all commercial classes.~~

***1. AVSA Commercial members who offer plants or live plant material for sale as a part of a business shall exhibit in the commercial horticulture division of an AVSA Show. AVSA Commercial members who do not offer plants or live plant material for sale as a part of a business shall exhibit in the amateur horticulture division of an AVSA Show.***

Happy holidays to you all!



# AVSA Best Varieties List for 2023

By Trudy Brekel

Email: [bestvariety@avsa.org](mailto:bestvariety@avsa.org)

Welcome to AVSA's 2023 Best Varieties List. I want to thank everyone who participated this year. The votes are in and here are the results.

I would really like to see more people voting for their Best Varieties. Some of the winners for this year's Best Varieties won with only two or three votes.

The Best Varieties List helps growers learn about violet varieties that are easy and enjoyable to grow. Hybridizers with several cultivars on the list probably have plenty of other hybrids growers would love to choose from. Read the descriptions and choose your

new favorite. This is a great way for new growers to become acquainted with the varieties to try growing and winning awards at AVSA shows.

Voting for the 2024 Best Varieties List will begin in May and close on June 30. To vote for your favorites, fill out the form on the AVSA website and mail it in or use our online voting system. If you vote after the June 30 close, your vote will still be counted in next year's tabulations. Watch for more voting information in future issues of the *African Violet Magazine*, AVSA Growing Tips and on AVSA's social media sites.

## 1. Steffano's Azure Diamonds

- (11157) 03/21/2019 •(S. Covolo)
- Single-semidouble light blue pansy/darker rays and veining on the tips and edges.
- Dark green, plain, quilted. Serrated. •Large.

## 2. Ness' Crinkle Blue

- (8136) 01/19/1995 •(D. Ness)
- Double dark blue star/variable thin white edge.
- Dark green, quilted, serrated/red back.
- Semiminiature.

## 3. Rebel's Splatter Kake

- (8695) 01/31/1998 •(R. Bann)
- Single-semidouble pink large fluted star/darker eye, purple fantasy, white-green edge.
- Medium green, spooned, quilted, glossy, serrated/red back. •Large.

## 4. Aca's Raspberry Rapture

- (9360) 08/07/2004 •(J. Brownlie)
- Semidouble pink frilled pansy/raspberry fantasy, edge.
- Variegated green and white, plain, quilted.
- Standard (CA).

## 5. Buckeye Seductress

- (9669) 07/13/2006 •(P. Hancock)
- Double dark lavender star/wide white band, green edge.
- Variegated medium green and cream, plain.
- Large (DAVS 1632).

## 6. Cajun's Flamboyant Mistress

- (10581) 01/11/2013 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Single-semidouble coral-pink frilled pansy/darker pink top petals, variable thin raspberry edge. •Variegated dark green, cream and pink, plain, heart-shaped.
- Standard (DAVS 1773).

### **7. Cajun's Lil Joy**

- (10639) 12/07/2013 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Semidouble pink pansy/darker mottling.
- Variegated medium green, cream and pink, plain/red back. •Semiminiature (DAVS 1787).

### **8. Carolina Elegant Affair**

- (10913) 07/31/2017 •(L. Abplanalp)
- Single-semidouble white ruffled star/pink patches.
- Variegated medium green and white, quilted, wavy. •Standard.

### **9. Jersey Rose Trail**

- (10377) 11/22/2010 •(R. Kurzynski)
- Semidouble fuchsia pansy.
- Medium green, plain, pointed.
- Semiminiature trailer.

### **10. Steffano's Starry Eyes**

- (11158) 03/21/2019 •(S. Covolo)
- Single-semidouble white large fluted star/pink eye.
- Variegated dark green, cream, and pink, plain, quilted. •Standard.

### **11. Jersey Snow Flakes**

- (9820) 12/14/2007 •(R. Kurzynski)
- Single-semidouble white pansy/white sparkle overlay.
- Variegated medium green and white, plain, quilted. •Standard.

### **12. Jersey Starlight Trail**

- (10671) 03/18/2014 •(R. Kurzynski)
- Semidouble white pansy/pink eye.
- Crown variegated medium green, cream and yellow, quilted.
- Semiminiature trailer.

### **13. Ma's Jamaican Farewell**

- (9383) 10/15/2004 •(O. Robinson)
- Double hot pink star/lighter eye.
- Variegated dark green, white and pink, quilted, serrated.
- Standard.

### **14. Powwow**

- (7708) 06/15/1992 •(K. Stork)
- Semidouble red pansy.
- Variegated green and cream, plain.
- Standard.

### **15. Rebel's Restless Heart**

- (9084) 12/03/2001 •(R. Bann)
- Double red-violet two-tone large ruffled star.
- Variegated medium green and ivory, plain, quilted, glossy, serrated/red back. •Standard.

### **16. Rob's Miriwinni**

- (8457) 05/23/1996 •(R. Robinson)
- Single chimera pink pansy/blue stripe, fantasy.
- Medium green, quilted, serrated.
- Semiminiature trailer.

### **17. Rob's Vanilla Trail**

- (9296) 11/21/2003 •(R. Robinson)
- Double cream to blush white pansy.
- Dark green, quilted, serrated, pointed.
- Semiminiature trailer.

### **18. Hunter's Slippery When Wet**

- (11237) 07/17/2019 •(K. Muzalewski)
- Double light pink frilled pansy/darker eye, white, green edge.
- Variegated medium green and white, serrated.
- Standard.

### **19. Rainbow's Quiet Riot**

- (R. Wasmund)
- Semidouble blue-purple large star/white fantasy.
- Dark green, round, scalloped. •Standard.

### **20. Rob's Fuddy Duddy**

- (7886) 06/02/1993 •(R. Robinson)
- Semidouble dark mauve-purple sticktite pansy.
- Dark green, quilted. •Semiminiature.

### **21. Ness' Mini Sota**

- (7647) 11/26/1991 •(D. Ness)
- Single chimera white sticktite pansy/fuchsia stripe.
- Light green, plain. •Semiminiature.

### **22. Cajun's Code Blue**

- (10632) 12/07/2013 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Single-semidouble dark blue pansy.
- Variegated medium green, white and pink, plain, heart-shaped, quilted.
- Standard (DAVS 1780).

### 23. Jersey Little Devil

- (10375) 11/22/2010 •(R. Kurzynski)
- Semidouble two-tone fuchsia pansy/darker upper petals.
- Variegated medium green, white and pink, heart-shaped, quilted. •Semiminiature.

### 24. Rob's Outer Orbit

- (8738) 07/25/1998 •(R. Robinson)
- Semidouble dark blue pansy/bright pink spots, white edge.
- Variegated dark green and white, quilted/red back. •Semiminiature.

### 25. Rebel's Rose Bud

- (9288) 11/12/2003 •(R. Bann)
- Double light pink two-tone star/ruffled fuchsia edge.
- Variegated dark green and cream, pointed, quilted/red back. •Standard.

# AVSA Honor Roll of African Violets 2023

By Trudy Brekel

Email: [bestvariety@avsa.org](mailto:bestvariety@avsa.org)

Unfortunately, there are no additions to this year's Honor Roll. To be on the Honor Roll of African Violets, a variety must have appeared in the Best Varieties List for three

consecutive years. When it is time to vote, get your choice in so your Best Variety can make the Honor Roll.

#### ■ 1997

- Ode to Beauty (7677) •(Cox/B. Johnson)
- Picasso (6924) •(M. Tremblay)

#### ■ 1998

- Ness' Crinkle Blue (8136) •(D. Ness)
- International •(B. Johnson)

#### ■ 1999

- Milky Way Trail (7469) •(J. Stahl)
- Ness' Satin Rose (8144) •(D. Ness)

#### ■ 2000

- Powwow (7708) •(K. Stork)
- Rob's Sticky Wicket (6467) •(R. Robinson)

#### ■ 2001

- Windy Day (7719) •(Stork/Boone)

#### ■ 2002

There were no 2002 additions to the Honor Roll

#### ■ 2003

- Rainbow's Quiet Riot •(R. Wasmund)

#### ■ 2004

- Frozen In Time (9167) •(S. Sorano)
- Orchard's Bumble Magnet (8479)
- (R. Wilson)

#### ■ 2005

- Rebel's Splatter Kake (8695) •(R. Bann)

#### ■ 2006

There were no 2006 additions to the Honor Roll

#### ■ 2007

- ACA's Red Ember (8732) •(J. Brownlie)

#### ■ 2008

- Blue Dragon (9516)
- (L. Lyon Greenhouses/P. Sorano)

#### ■ 2009

- Bob Serbin (8292) •(J. Brownlie)

#### ■ 2010

There were no 2010 additions to the Honor Roll

#### ■ 2011

- Plumberry Glow (9187)
- (L. Lyon Greenhouses/P. Sorano)

#### ■ 2012

There were no 2012 additions to the Honor Roll

#### ■ 2013

- Harbor Blue (6174) •(T. Weber)

#### ■ 2014

- Rob's Chilly Willy (8170) •(R. Robinson)
- Rob's Fuddy Duddy (7886) •(R. Robinson)

#### ■ 2015-2017

There were no additions these years to the Honor Roll

#### ■ 2018

- Buckeye Cranberry Sparkler (8745)
- (P. Hancock)
- Buckeye Seductress (9669) •(P. Hancock)
- Precious Red (9724) •(H. Pittman)
- Rob's Boolaroo (8053) •(R. Robinson)

#### ■ 2019

- Jersey Snow Flakes (9820) •(R. Kurzynski)
- Buckeye Nostalgia (10484) •(P. Hancock)
- Jolly Orchid (9719) •(H. Pittman)
- Kentucky Gooseberries •(D. Rollins)

#### ■ 2020

- The Alps (7813) •(K. Horikoshi/H. Sawara)
- Edge of Darkness (10677)
- (Paul Sorano/Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses)

#### ■ 2021

- Carolina Elegant Affair (10913)
- (L. Abplanalp)
- Rob's Vanilla Trail (9296) •(R. Robinson)

#### ■ 2022

- Rose Bouquet (9028) •(G.T. Smith)
- Pixie Blue (2598) •(L. Lyon)
- Hunter's Kashmir •(K. Muzalewski)



**Join**

African Violet Society of America

**JOIN TODAY!**

Learn more at  
[africanvioletsofamerica.org](http://africanvioletsofamerica.org)

(409) 839-4725

P.O. Box 22417  
Beaumont, TX 77720

AVSA is non-profit, educational organization dedicated to helping African violet enthusiasts enjoy these beautiful plants.

# Membership Drive

# Join & Renew

The logo of the African Violet Society of America is a purple circle containing a white stylized flower icon and the text "African Violet Society of America" in white.

## Affiliates

This is the perfect time to run a membership drive for AVSA. It's as simple as bringing a laptop to the meeting and asking all non-members of AVSA to sign up. Some of the products purchased by the members can be useful as monthly programs at the affiliate meetings.

Your membership supports AVSA's ability to continue to be the world authority on African violets, and you'll receive the *African Violet Magazine*, discounts on shopping and access to the members-only section of [africanvioletsofamerica.org](http://africanvioletsofamerica.org). Another advantage is an early-registration discount for the annual convention. Plus, you'll have the personal fulfillment of knowing you're supporting an organization that cares deeply about the future of the African violet.

*We cordially invite you*

and your friend(s) to become valued members. Together, we can create a brighter future for African violets and AVSA.

**We are offering a \$10 gift certificate code for products from the AVSA Store for new one-year Individual, Associate and Digital members. The offer is also valid for existing members who renew for three years. To grab this deal, visit [africanvioletsofamerica.org](http://africanvioletsofamerica.org) or call 409-839-4725. This offer is good September 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024. The code will be issued once the AVSA processes your payment. Once you're issued your gift certificate code, you can shop at the AVSA storefront. (Excludes 2024 products, i.e., the 2024 African violet calendar and convention promotional items.)**

So, buy a one-year gift membership for a friend and renew your membership for three years simultaneously. Receive a gift code per membership purchased. Shop, learn and relax. By renewing your membership or gifting one, your membership supports the leading authority on African violets, the African Violet Society of America. While renewing or gifting, please consider making a Booster donation.

There is cash to make, too. Each individual, affiliate or Commercial who refers 10 or more new members to AVSA from September 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 will receive \$1 for each member recruited. Be sure the new member fills out the referral blank on the order form or on the website. It's that simple!

---

## The African Violet Society of America, Inc.

P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, Texas 77720

409-839-4725 • [office@avsa.org](mailto:office@avsa.org)

[www.africanvioletsofamerica.org](http://www.africanvioletsofamerica.org)



# AVSA Awards a Pair of Scholarships

By Sophia Bennett

Email: [editor@avsa.org](mailto:editor@avsa.org)

In 2023, the AVSA Scholarship Committee awarded two scholarships to university students.

The first recipient is Adam (who asked that his last name not be used), an AVSA member who learned about the scholarship through the newsletter. He is working toward a degree in biology with emphases in animal biology and pre-veterinary medicine and minors in chemistry and applied human biology at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay while preparing to go to veterinary school.

Adam's passion for animals is followed closely by his interest in African violets. Currently, he has about 300 African violets in his collection. Most are semiminiatures and miniatures. He purchased his first plants from Hunter's Hybrids with his mother. Since then, he's also become enamored with the Pittman varieties and Ness' violets, especially Ness' Crinkle Blue.

"I'm very dedicated to what I like, and when I jump into something I tend to go all out," he says. "I started with 12 on the kitchen table and now I have six racks full of violets." Adam has found not only that his science classes can teach him a lot about caring for his African violets, but that working with African violets and refining his process of caring for them brings his science classes to life.

Jesse D. Potts, who is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in environmental horticulture at the University of Florida, is this year's second scholarship recipient. Jesse completed his

master's degree at Tennessee State University, which is known for its specialization in cultivating a wide variety of African violets within the horticulture department. His deep fascination for these plants developed during propagation classes and field trips to Optimara in Nashville. He began cultivating them at home and holds a particular fondness for First Kiss Blush and any bell-shaped blossom varieties.

Upon graduation, Jesse aims to make his mark in the fields of biotechnology and gene editing, with a specific focus on developing crops and ornamental plants with enhanced disease resistance. His Ph.D. project centers around vanilla orchids and encompasses a range of studies, from analyzing optimal light and nutrient conditions to exploring metagenomics. Additionally, he is exploring the application of CRISPR technology to promote early flowering and improve self-pollination efficiency. "My advisor and I are actively engaged in research on ornamental plants, using *impatiens* as a model plant," he says. "We are also integrating the study of diseases that have impacted African violets, such as powdery mildew, into our program." Jesse anticipates graduating in 2026.

Scholarships are made possible through contributions to the Boyce Edens Research Fund. Many thanks to the members who have donated to this fund in recent years. We wish all of our scholarship recipients the best of luck as they move forward with their studies and careers.



# And the Winners Are ...

By Mary Corondan

Email: winners@avsa.org

## ■ Oshkosh Violet Society, WI —

### Winners:

- Best AVSA Standard Collection: Rhapsodie Clementine, Optimara Hiroshige II, LE-Karusel'; Best AVSA Mini/Semi Collection: Jolly Orchid, Jolly Lulu, Windsome; Best in Show/Best Miniature: Windsome; 2nd Best in Show/Best Standard: Optimara Hiroshige II; Best Semiminiature: Definitely Darryl; Horticulture Sweepstakes, **Jerry VandeBerg**.
- 2nd Best AVSA Standard Collection: The Alps, Red Mount Fuji, Aca's Summer Parfait; 2nd Best AVSA Mini/Semi Collection: Cajun's Lil Forever Blue, Hunter's Whitetail Fawn, Persian Prince; Best Species Collection: S. 5c2 clone *diplotricha* Punter #6, S. 5c1 clone *ionanthus*, S. 5b clone *grotei* Silvert; Best Species: S. 5b clone *grotei* Silvert; Best Gesneriad: *Sinningia* 'Ozark Rosy Cheeks'; Best Design, **Kevin Degner**.
- Design Sweepstakes (tie): **Kevin Degner and Doug Kindachuh**.

## ■ African Violet Club of Burlington County, NJ — Winners:

- Best AVSA Standard Collection: Buckeye Everlasting, Buckeye Colossal, Ma's Debutante; 2nd Best AVSA Mini/Semi Collection: Blue Silhouette, Jolly Jan, Jolly Wow; 2nd Best Species Collection: S. 5c1 clone *tongwensis*, S. 5c1 clone *tongwensis* Uppsala 3397, S. 5i clone *velutinus*; Best Semiminiature: Eternal Orbit; Best Miniature: Sport of Optimara Little Trio; Best Trailer: Rob's Boolaroo; Best Design; Horticulture Sweepstakes, **Sandy Skalski**.
- Best AVSA Mini/Semi Collection: Shirl's Red Sky, Optimara Little Crystal, Jolly Orchid; Best Species Collection: S. 5b clone *grotei* Silvert, S. 5g clone *pendulus* var. *kizarae*, S. 5b clone *confusa* Mather E; Best Species: S. 5g clone *pendulus* var. *kizarae*; Best Gesneriad: *Episcia* 'Faded Jeans'; Design Sweepstakes, **Susan Arnao**.
- Best in Show/Best Standard: Buckeye Nostalgia, **Kurt Jablonski**.

## Help a Struggling African Violet by Removing the Crown

Have an old, necky violet? A violet with root rot? Maybe a violet in bug-infested soil? Restart it by first decapitating it (or removing the crown) and then repotting it. Always use fresh, moist potting mix with lots of perlite for the best results. Water it just

enough to get it dripping, then enclose the plant in a clear bag and seal it tightly for one to two months until the plant is rooted. (Note: Growers in tropical humidity may need to vent the bag to prevent heavy condensation.)

# Be an AVSA Booster This Year

By Randy G. Deutsch

Email: [fundraising@avsa.org](mailto:fundraising@avsa.org)

Think about everything the African Violet Society of America does for you. It helps you improve your care of African violets, connects you with a broader community of African violet lovers and brings knowledge and education to people around the globe. Hopefully, it brings you joy in many other ways as well.

November and December are a special time when we emphasize the importance of AVSA and ask for your help in keeping the finances of the society in order. While all donations throughout the year are very much appreciated, we realize that many people make their giving decisions at the end of the year. That's why we wait until the holiday season to ask for your continued support. We hope that you will contribute to AVSA before the end of the year.

Your Booster donations allow AVSA to move forward, plan for the future, keep

modernization in sight and provide a robust and functioning society for all. As we've all experienced, the cost of everything is going up. This is true for the society as well. We need your help to maintain the current level of member services and advance our mission of education, research and conservation of our beloved African violets. This includes being able to support a national convention annually.

Our success relies on the generosity of you, the members. As you make your end-of-year gift-giving plans, please consider making a donation to AVSA. Donations can be made on the AVSA website by simply clicking the Booster Donations button. You may also donate by calling the office or sending a check in the mail.

Thank you in advance for giving back to the society that gives so much to you.





# Registration Report

By Dr. Jeff Smith

Email: [registration@avsa.org](mailto:registration@avsa.org)

## ■ Kathy Hajner — Granbury, TX

### K's Favorite Trick

- (11384) 07/11/2023 •(K. Hajner)
- Single-semidouble white frilled star/pink center, purple fantasy.
- Medium-dark green, quilted. •Standard.

### K's Simply Put

- (11385) 07/11/2023 •(K. Hajner)
- Single sticktite magenta frilled star/white center, variable white edge.
- Variegated medium green and white, ovate, quilted. •Standard.

### K's Sweet Silas

- (11386) 07/11/2023 •(K. Hajner)
- Single-semidouble lavender-blue frilled pansy/white reverse fantasy, variable pink fantasy, variable darker tips.
- Variegated medium green, white and cream, pointed, quilted. •Standard.

### K's Unbridled

- (11387) 07/11/2023 •(K. Hajner)
- Single-semidouble violet frilled pansy/white reverse fantasy, purple fantasy.
- Medium green, quilted. •Standard.

## ■ Sam Cunningham — Houston, TX

### Preppy Pink Wasp

- (11388) 07/17/2023 •(S. Cunningham)
- Single pink wasp/variable green edge on upper petals.
- Dark green, spooned/red bustle back.
- Miniature.

### Veri Peri Wasp

- (11389) 07/17/2023 •(S. Cunningham)
- Single blue wasp.
- Medium green, ovate, hairy, serrated/red bustle back. •Small standard.

## Eyes Like Liz

- (11390) 07/18/2023 •(S. Cunningham)
- Single to semidouble white, slightly bell-shaped/lavender eye, ruffled lavender edge, variable green on upper petals.
- Variegated light to dark green and cream, heart-shaped. •Semiminature.

## ■ Kathleen C. Arceneaux — Blacksburg, VA

### Appalachian Tussy Mussy

- (11391) 07/22/2023 •(K.C. Arceneaux)
- Semidouble white pansy/variable lavender center.
- Crown variegated medium green and cream, heart-shaped, serrated. •Miniature.

## ■ Linda Abplanalp — Burlington, NC

### Carolina Airosa

- (11392) 07/27/2023 •(L. Abplanalp)
- Single dark blue sticktite ruffled star/darker blue fantasy, pink fantasy, thin white edge.
- Medium green, plain. •Standard.

### Carolina Made You Look

- (11393) 07/27/2023 •(L. Abplanalp)
- Semidouble white ruffled star/blue-purple edge.
- Variegated medium green, light green and white, wavy, ruffled. •Standard.

## ■ Belinda Thibodeaux — Patterson, LA

### Cajun's Just George

- (11394) 08/27/2023 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Double dark blue ruffled star/white edge.
- Variegated medium green and white, quilted. •Standard.

**Cajun’s Pandemic Blues**

- (11395) 08/27/2023 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Double white ruffled star/purple markings, variable green edge.
- Variegated medium green and cream, serrated, quilted. •Standard.

**Cajun’s Remember Me**

- (11396) 08/27/2023 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Semidouble grape ruffled pansy/pink fantasy, white edge.
- Variegated medium green, cream and pink, serrated, quilted. •Standard.

**Cajun’s Rougarou**

- (11397) 08/27/2023 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Single-semidouble dark red slightly frilled pansy/white edge.
- Variegated medium green, cream and pink, serrated, quilted/red back. •Standard.

**Cajun’s Voodoo Queen**

- (11398) 08/27/2023 •(B. Thibodeaux)
- Semidouble-double pink frilled pansy/ raspberry sparkle edge.
- Variegated medium green, cream and pink, serrated, quilted. •Standard.

**■ Registration Change**

The following has been changed at the request of the hybridizer:

**Roku’s Smiling Cinderella**

- (11383): Change name to **Roko’s Smiling Cinderella**.

**Violets Most Wanted List**

By Mary Thompson

Email: [preservingviolets@avsa.org](mailto:preservingviolets@avsa.org)

I am so excited to let you know I just made several matches from one person’s collection. There will be four very happy people, one being myself. It is so important we share our violets because so many of them are being lost.

Please look at the list and see if you can help someone find their special violet in the spring. Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to you all.

Alamo Sunshine  
Bianca  
Darth Vader  
Deer Path  
Fisher’s Leone  
Houdini’s Magic

Joyful  
Midget Silver Fox  
Ness’ Red Velvet  
Plum Tip  
Something Special  
Tat’ianin Den’

Teeny Weeny  
The Alps  
The White Rabbit  
Tinker Bells



# Mark Your Calendar for the Virtual Circle!

By Sandi Soto

Email: [ssoto4@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:ssoto4@tampabay.rr.com)

If you're in the mood for something new and exciting, you're in the right place: AVSA is proud to announce the arrival of the Virtual Circle. Recognizing the importance of reaching a wide audience of the AVSA membership, a committee made up of officers, committee chairs and members came together beginning in July to brainstorm programming to educate, entertain and excite. The result? A planned series of Zoom presentations by a range of people with knowledge worth sharing.

The inaugural Virtual Circle on November 12 will feature Kathy Lahti, who is known for her expertise at preparing African violets for show (a timely topic). Mark your calendar for the next Virtual Circle on Saturday, January 13 at 3 p.m. Central time. The third program, still in the planning stage, will feature a commercial African violet vendor, who will talk about the art of supplying us with all the African violets we can handle!

Now, let's look at the programs. Each will feature one or more spotlighted speakers depending on the topic. Sometimes the focus will be on the speaker; other times, on the topic. For example, the second Virtual Circle will be focused on the 2024 AVSA Convention and provide information about registration, accommodations, tours and convention activities. It will also feature first-time and frequent attendees who will share their experiences and describe why attending again is important to them. Planned speakers include Candace Baldwin, Convention Chair,

and Susan Anderson, Show Chair. Jeffery Hudson-Covolo will give attendees a rundown on the tours of Phoenix/Tempe and the surrounding area, which are a great way to see parts of the beautiful Southwest and get to know your fellow AVSA members from all over the country and maybe the world.

Virtual Circle program frequency isn't set in stone. Depending on member interest, time limitations and the availability of speakers, the Virtual Circle Committee plans to offer programs either quarterly or bimonthly. We currently have the capacity to host 300 attendees, but we're looking at ways we can grow that number if there is enough demand.

Registration is available on the AVSA website and is a members-only benefit. But, non-members who would like to attend can pay a fee of \$28 for a year of digital membership, attend all Virtual Circle presentations for the year, access the digital version of *African Violet Magazine* and receive all the other benefits of membership. Current members will be given an opportunity to make a voluntary donation to help support the Virtual Circle program and offset program costs.

The Virtual Circle Committee is excited about the potential of this new program and hopes you are as well. Excitement is contagious, so plan to join your fellow AVSA members in November and rekindle your enthusiasm for African violets or share and spread some of the enthusiasm you've never lost!



Photo credit: Liubov Eremenko

### **EL-Trinadtsat' Karat**

Hybridized by: L. Eremenko  
Standard

# How an AVSA Affiliate has Thrived for 75 Years

By Bill Schmidt

Email: [schmidt.wc@verizon.net](mailto:schmidt.wc@verizon.net)

In the fall of 1948, 31 women came together in Richmond, Virginia, to organize an affiliate of the AVSA. They had just had their first African violet show and were eager to continue growing and showing this charming houseplant. Thus, the Richmond African Violet Society (RAVS) was founded.

There are identifiable elements that encouraged this to happen. Following World War II, women were interested in forming social groups to meet their interpersonal needs. There was a keen interest in plants and gardening, especially in Virginia, and the African violet had just become widely available commercially. There was a broader community interested in floral activities eager to follow social events. This fostered publicity. There was also a need for education about these plants and their propagation, culture and decorative uses.

RAVS transformed the June meeting into an open house event, which is promoted during the April show and sale. It has proved to be a very successful recruiting event.



2022 show Honors Table

The response to these elements in changing ways has allowed the Richmond African Violet Society to continue to thrive for 75 years.

In keeping with other Virginia garden clubs, RAVS initially required new members to have a sponsor for admission to the society. Over time, it became obvious that the group had to welcome a greater diversity of members interested in floriculture. A man admitted to RAVS in 1958 was so prolific in his African violet collecting that he was able to stage his own show for the group. In the 1980s, RAVS dropped its sponsorship requirement for new members so any person interested in growing and showing African violets could

join. This created a wider pool from which to recruit members.



Bill Schmidt making a presentation at a local garden club

When interest in African violets waned due to generational transitions and the ready availability of other houseplants, it became necessary to expand the scope of plants the society promoted. Fortunately, commercial hybridizers kept introducing new and attractive cultivars that interested the public and members were eager to obtain and grow them. Everyone looked forward to the plant sharing table. Younger members and even some long-time members wanted more. In response, the other gesneriads became a larger part of the society's focus. Introduced incrementally through speakers and the display of other gesneriads at the meetings, this led to the society's affiliation with The Gesneriad Society.

RAVS's annual shows have always been a source for creating excitement and promoting better AV culture. Having good educational displays and hosts armed with show guides to greet guests helps to engage the public. RAVS also initiated a Peoples' Choice Award that allows guests to vote on their favorite plant and design. But it is not necessary

to wait for an annual show. Encouraging judged exhibits and culture tips at meetings does the same for members.

Even for shows, it became harder for the society to break into the news cycle, so other kinds of outreach had to be utilized. RAVS has a website and Facebook page that is kept up to date, but the most important public exposure is the venue for the annual show: the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. The show has been held there since 2004. RAVS transformed the June meeting into an open house event, which is promoted during the April show and sale. The public is encouraged to bring their plants for consultation. Attendees leave with starter plants, planting materials and literature. It has proved to be a very successful recruiting event.



Propagation workshop

RAVS also encourages member presence at other events. A member always responds to requests from other plant organizations for speakers. Members participate in pop-up plant sales, particularly popular with the younger crowd, where RAVS business cards and other literature can be distributed.

Programs at the meetings are essential for the education of the members, but choosing programs for members with a vast range of experience can be challenging. RAVS uses hands-on programs such as propagation to



engage both new and long-term members. In addition to in-person guest speakers, RAVS takes advantage of webinars and Zoom programs to introduce topics from otherwise unavailable expert speakers. Panel discussions also promote interaction between all members.

Mini shows and “dawg” shows help members overcome their hesitancy to exhibit their plants in shows open to the public. Dawg shows give members the opportunity to bring in less-than-perfect plants. There are awards for the dawg with the most pups (suckers), the longest neck and the most disobedient dawg. Awards are given by member votes.

The society has numerous standing committee chairs to break down the work, so many members can assume a special role without being overwhelmed.

Meeting the members’ social needs cannot be ignored. New members are integrated into the society with a “friend” who not only answers questions about the plants, but also helps them to get to know the other members. On-going social events like the annual Christmas Luncheon, which spouses are encouraged to attend, foster group cohesiveness. Members’ birthdays are published in the society’s newsletter.



Members at the Christmas Luncheon

Occasional gatherings at a member’s home provide the opportunity to learn more about these members and their growing methods. If a new member renews, they receive a RAVS pin during their second year. Members are encouraged to follow the light refreshments at the meeting with lunch together at a local restaurant. Celebrating RAVS’s milestones, especially anniversaries, creates a sense of continuity.

The Richmond African Violet Society is looking forward to its 100th anniversary in 2048. With the willingness to adapt to the times, the celebration should be wonderful.

## What are the Three Types of African Violets?

**Single Crown** hybrids are the most common. Thousands of named varieties have been bred to have unique traits. They are meant to be grown in a rosette pattern with one center of growth.

**Trailing** hybrids (often called trailers) are bred to have many crowns (or centers of

growth) and to bloom freely. Many flower colors are available. Special growing techniques will produce impressive size and form in your trailers.

**Species** first grew in nature with flowers in shades of lavender. Species are the original African violets found in the wild.



# Meet the Article Contest Winners

By Sophia Bennett

Email: [editor@avsa.org](mailto:editor@avsa.org)

## 3rd Place, Advanced

### Winner: Jennifer Vincent

I have always loved plants. Several of my family members are/were plant lovers as well. I spent a lot of time helping my mom with her outside plants, my grandma with her plants and garden, and my grandpa in the fields collecting data on corn and soybean hybrids. My great-aunt Arlene had African violets growing along some windows in her house. When I was an adult, I started growing African violets in memory of her.

Fast forward to today, I am the Vice President of the Omaha African Violet and Gesneriad Society. I really enjoy experimenting with and hybridizing African violets and gesneriads. Some of my favorite creations are *Primulina* 'Jen's Asteroid Belt', *Streptocarpus* 'Jen's Serendipity' and African violets Jen's Rainier, Jen's Drops of Jupiter, Jen's Thunder Punch, Jen's Solar Blast and Jen's Unicorn Magic. I plan to start registering some of the African violets soon. You can find out more about my hybrids and processes at my Facebook group, Jen's Blooming House (Hybrids), and YouTube channel Jen's Blooming House.

## 3rd Place, Beginner/Intermediate

### Winner: Peg Crawford

I discovered the amazing world of African violets in the late 1970s when I was living in Natick, Massachusetts, and happened to stumble upon an African violet show being held at the local shopping mall. My grandmother had grown a couple of lovely purple African violets, but I was flabbergasted to see all the varied show entries — a lovely array of shapes, sizes and colors! I marveled at the huge violets displayed and grown by the late John Cook and his wife, Barbara, owners of Cape Cod Violetry. My interest in these plants was off to the races.

All my questions were answered by the friendly members of the Bay State African Violet Society. I joined the club right then and there, and AVSA the next day. To this day, I'm still an active member of that club, having served in multiple capacities over the years — as President, Editor, Director, Treasurer, Secretary and more. I am an AVSA Senior Judge and recently retired from work. I moved to Cape Cod with my husband and our spoiled cat, so I now have plenty of time to putter around with my beloved African violets.



# In Search of New Violets

By Dr. Jeff Smith

Email: [jsmith4@bsu.edu](mailto:jsmith4@bsu.edu)

The July/August issue of *African Violet Magazine* contained an article from Bryan So about his experiences in flowering the species violet *S. goetzeanus*. Some have wondered if this plant has any use in hybridization programs. The answer is, we don't really know. The blooming of the plant has been so rare that to the best of my knowledge, no hybrids have been created using this species as a parent. I am aware of one attempt in Sweden to hybridize on the plant, but no fertile seeds were produced (or at least nothing germinated).

So reports that he has been successful in getting seed pods on this species. Interestingly, the fruits of *S. goetzeanus* are purple, not green like the fruits of all other African violet species. This may be the first time a fruit has actually been produced on this plant, as the purple color of the fruits is not mentioned in the scientific species description.

*S. goetzeanus* is a miniature trailer with attractive foliage, small plant growth and bicolor flowers. These are traits that would be nice to introduce into cultivated plants. However, the environmental conditions needed to induce flowering are very specific (cold night temperatures) and it is unknown if the F1 offspring would inherit these requirements as well. So has promised to keep everyone advised on the success of his seed pods and possible seedlings. Here's hoping that this species can be added to the hybridizing gene pool and new plants may eventually come from this species.

**Q: My understanding of chimeras is that the center stripe color is the one usually inherited by the offspring. In Yukako, where the center stripe is green, could fantasy markings or raspberry edges be put on the green color of this plant's center stripe?**

A: The evidence does suggest that when a chimera is used in a cross, the pollen and especially the ovules of the pistil are made from the same cells that make up the center stripe of the petal and will pass these characteristics on to the offspring. Your question of using Yukako as a parent to tap into this plant's green center stripe is an interesting idea. I don't recall seeing any of the green-flowered plants combined with other traits, such as fantasy or raspberry edges. Frozen in Time does have white variegation in the green petals, but I believe these to be a result of the plant's variegated foliage, not a product of a fantasy trait. If it was possible to combine the marking traits with green flower color, I might have expected that a hybridizer would have created those combinations by now.

To be honest, I'm not 100% certain how to explain green flower color and the inheritance of this trait. In earlier studies, I found that the green flower color was due to chlorophyll and that the petals are very leaf-like and contain the stomata or pores normally found in leaves. I've always thought that green flower color was the result of a petal that remained more primitive and leaf-like and never developed the anthocyanin pigments that make up the

usual flower colors of petals. In this model, green wasn't a "pigment" to be inherited as a dominant or recessive to the other flower colors, but a development trait where the petals remained in the more primitive leaf-like condition rather than maturing into full petals. The sterility common to green flowers is certainly consistent with this model. The sexual structures of anthers and pistils would remain more leaf-like and not mature to function. Green-flowered plants are well known to have sterility issues and I've always thought the cause was the failure of the sexual parts to fully develop and not be "leaves."

My suggestion would be to go ahead and make the cross with fantasy flowers or raspberry-edged flowers on to Yukako and see if you can get seeds. The green center stripe might make the flowers leaf-like and sterile, so try lots of crosses. If you do get seed set and seedlings, write back and let me know if you were successful in combining the marking traits of fantasy and/or raspberry edges with the green flower color.

We never know sometimes what is possible until we try. Good luck with this idea.

**Q: One of the plants I purchased from a box store didn't have stamens. However, a few of the flowers in more recent blooms are showing stamens while other flowers are not. What's going on?**

A: The Hox gene mutation that causes the lack of stamens in African violet flowers is characteristic of the Optimara Looxo series. This may be the plant that you purchased from the box store. I've grown many of this series and most of the time they do not produce stamens. However, I have noticed that a few of the cultivars will occasionally produce flowers with stamens. These flowers might be on a single bloom stalk or be a few flowers within a bloom stalk. Producing stamens usually happened on larger, more mature plants. The

expression of the mutation is just changing a little bit and is nothing to worry about. If the plant seems to go to all flowers with stamens, try taking a leaf cutting and restarting the plant. A new plantlet will often return to the original form and not have stamens when it begins flowering.

**Q: I have my first seed pod on one of my plants. Is it true that every seed will produce a different new plant?**

A: Congratulations on your seed pod. I hope you appreciate that this will be the start of a long journey. African violet seed pods or fruits usually take four to six months or longer to mature. Most of the increase in size will happen rapidly after pollination. Then, the fruit will just sit there for several months as the seeds slowly mature. Most seed pods will remain green and the petals will dry up and die. If you are very careful, you can groom off the dead petals to improve the appearance of the plant, but you may accidentally snap the stem of the seed pod and lose the fruit too early.

Yes, every seed in the seed pod will be a different genetic individual. The cell divisions of meiosis that produce the sperm nuclei in the pollen and the egg nucleus in the ovules guarantee that the chromosomes have been mixed and recombined. The random fertilization of which sperm to which egg further mixes the genetics of the new seedling. However, the rules of dominant and recessive traits may make seedlings appear very similar. For example, all of the seedlings may have blue flowers, as that color is the most dominant color. However, at some genetic or biochemical level, each plant will be a unique individual.

You might consider how human siblings often resemble each other, but they are never exactly alike. The same is true of a litter of puppies. They may strongly resemble each other, but all are unique genetic individuals. African violet seed pods may contain several

hundred seeds and all of them will be slightly unique from each other. This is what makes hybridizing so much fun; you can produce many new plants quickly from a single cross.

Your only limitation is how much space you have for growing out the seeds. This is why

hybridizers sometimes repeat the same cross several times. All of the seeds will be slightly unique and new surprises can be produced even from a cross using the same parents. Enjoy your seed pod and I hope you get something different among your seedlings.

## **“Perfectly Pittman” Video**

This video chronicles the multiple hybrids, growing techniques, growing spaces and AVSA involvement of Hortense and Ray Pittman.



**Jolly Orchid**

**Available in the  
AVSA Store.  
DVD and Thumbdrive  
format \$20**



Photo credit: Sergei and Natalia Burkatskii

## **BR-Osiris**

Hybridized by: S. and N. Burkatskii  
Standard





# Family Portrait: *Seemannia purpurascens*

By Mel Grice

Email: melsgrice@gmail.com

This issue's highlighted gesneriad is *Seemannia purpurascens*. The genus *Seemannia* was named in honor of Berthold Carl Seemann (1825-1871), a German botanist, plant collector and explorer. *Seemannias* are found mainly in

the Andes regions of South America: Bolivia, northern Argentina and southern Peru. They grow on earth banks or rocks in forests and are seasonally dormant.



*Seemannia purpurascens*. Photo credit: Mel Grice.

Seemannias have rhizomatous root structures. Rhizomes are one of the three root structures found in gesneriads (the other two being fibrous only and tuberous). Rhizomes are actually modified stems that grow perpendicular to the force of gravity. Scaly rhizomes are produced under the soil when conditions are favorable. They often resemble pine cones and help the plants remain alive during the dry season in the wild. They perform the same function as a tuber or bulb, so do not discard the pot if the plant looks dead — it is only resting or dormant.

Seemannia propagation is done by placing stem cuttings in water or soilless mix. Stem cuttings root very quickly, sometimes within days. Rhizomes can be planted whole, in pieces or by removing individual scales and planting them. Bear in mind that some rhizomatous plants are shy rhizome producers, so don't assume that a pot will be full of rhizomes for the future. Always take some stem cuttings to be sure to keep the variety.

A crucial factor in rhizome production is keeping the plants consistently well fed and watered. If excess drying occurs too early in the growth cycle, the plants may go dormant prematurely without producing any rhizomes for next year. That is why I try to have two or more pots of a variety growing so that I won't lose the variety if I occasionally forget to water a tray of plants. I try to place each pot in a different part of my plant room so that they are watered on different days.

*S. purpurascens* is a variable species. My plant in the photo has bright orange-red flowers with a striking green limb. (Limb is a botanical term referring to the outer portion or edge of a flower.) Other forms of *S. purpurascens* have bright pink flowers with a purple limb. Both forms have attractive dark green, pointed foliage. The stems and edge of leaves have red hairs.

I highly recommend you grow *S. purpurascens*!

# Remember AVSA on Giving Tuesday

By Randy G. Deutsch

Email: [fundraising@avsa.org](mailto:fundraising@avsa.org)

This year, Giving Tuesday is November 28. Please keep AVSA in your plans for this special day. As you consider what you are thankful for this year, we hope you will make the decision to help say thanks for what our society has brought to your life. What a great hobby that fills your days with beautiful plants, opens

the door to many new friends and is just fun! Click the Booster Donations button on the AVSA website to make your Giving Tuesday donation.



2023 Article Contest—

# An Experiment with Bloom Stalk Propagation

By Marge Farrand

Email: [mfarrand@comcast.net](mailto:mfarrand@comcast.net)

I love my chimeras and am always looking for ways to propagate them. I'm delighted to find a hidden sucker, but I'm usually forced to resort to removing the crown of the plant. That causes many suckers to emerge from the center crown. It's a quick and successful way to propagate and results in many new plants, but unfortunately also results in ruining a large and beautiful mother plant. With this process, the plant goes in the trash after the new suckers are removed.

I have tried to propagate by just removing the bloom stalks and planting them in dirt, which saves the mother plant, but I've had limited success. My patience wears thin with the lengthy time it takes for the few bloom stalks that survive to produce their plantlet or two.

We spend part of the winter away from Michigan and were gone four months to Florida this year. I had read about leaving the bloom stalks on the plant and just removing the flowers as an alternative method of propagation. This method also saves the mother plant. I decided to give it a try during our extended absence.

I chose 13 blooming plants (not all chimeras since this was an experiment). I removed all blooms from the stems on each plant. Some were older stems that already had a spent bloom or two removed and some were new stems with only a few blooms emerging.

When I returned, I was rewarded with some limited success. Eleven of the thirteen plants still had living bloom stalks, but only six of those plants had bloom stalks that produced viable plantlets. Two of those plants had stalks that all produced plantlets. This included Ma's Blue Spinner, which produced six! Altogether, I had 16 plantlets on those six plants that were large enough to pot up.



Mag's Lovely Rainbow had plantlets with blooms.

The plantlets were mostly covered up by new growth, and their small leaves tended to curl down and under. Separation from the bloom stalks was a bit delicate, but I eventually chose eight of the healthiest plantlets and potted them up. Several weeks later, they are all doing well.

With this limited success and length of time necessary, I wouldn't recommend this propagation method. I will continue to remove the crown, which will reroot, and then harvest the resulting suckers as my preferred

propagation method. It is far faster and produces many more babies. But if you just can't manage to mangle one of your beautiful blooming chimeras and you have unlimited time and patience, you might try this method. Or just try it for fun! You never know if it will work for you. In the meantime, no harm will be done to any of your gorgeous plants.



Plantlets removed from the stalk and planted up.



## AVSA Drinkware Order Yours Now!

AVSA has contracted with MD Engraving (Sioux Falls, SD), to bring you customizable drinkware products.

Perfect for the office or growing room. Great gift for outgoing officers or judges!



### FEATURES

- ◆ High quality double-insulated stainless steel drinkware maintains beverage temperature
- ◆ Hand wash - easy to clean
- ◆ Available in many styles and colors
- ◆ Optional lid choice

### CUSTOMIZABLE (no extra cost)

- ◆ Choose one of three AVSA logos or submit your own affiliate logo
- ◆ Add a second image to the reverse side
- ◆ Add a name personalization
- ◆ Many options available



Place group order and save on shipping.  
Orders over \$110.01 shipped free!

See details and place orders at  
[mdengravinggifts.com/avsa-orders.html](http://mdengravinggifts.com/avsa-orders.html)

**Proceeds benefit the  
African Violet Society of America Inc.**







Photo credit: Elena Nikolaeva

### ***Sinningia Speciosa* 'EN-Chernyi Kardinal'**

Hybridized by: E. Nikolaeva



Photo credit: Nadezhda Berdnikova

## **N-Berezovyi Sok**

Hybridized by: N. Berdnikova  
Semiminiature

# Protecting African Violets During Home Renovations

By Beverly Wombold

Email: bdw63000@gmail.com

Sometimes, our collections of violets and gesneriads are subject to conditions that require extra thought and care. We purchased an older home that desperately needed new windows. How would I protect my large collection of African violets and *Streptocarpus* from possible thrips, mites, aphids, spider mites and other pests that could come through open windows? I had a plant room plus plant stands in nearly every room of my home. I did not have a windowless room available to seal them all in when replacing the windows. While I had some plants and starts in domed trays or covered containers, the majority would be exposed to possible pests.

After some thought, I came up with a plan. First, the windows would be replaced when thrips would least likely be out in large numbers. This does take some planning since ordering and installation can take anywhere from six weeks to several months. Our outdoor plants were not in bloom at the time of repairs, so blooms would not be attracting thrips around our house. We also have a rock yard rather than grass, which reduced the thrips count.

A couple weeks before installation was a good time to repot and get the repotted plants in plastic bags. Often, I have repotted and placed plants in plastic bags up to four weeks before placing them back on their reservoirs, so having plants in bags would help protect them from invaders.

A few days before the installation day, I removed all the blooms off my plants. No use enticing pests! Next, I began to cover up the rest of the plants. When to start this will depend on how many plants you have. I needed at least two long days to get all the plants that were not in plastic bags or domed into containers or covered. I purchased plastic 2-gallon twist-tie bags off the internet and 1-gallon twist-tie bags from the local grocery store ahead of time. The plants were placed in bags. I tucked the bag opening under the plant pot. Larger plants went in the 2-gallon bags and smaller ones in the 1-gallon bags.



I also had some very large plastic bags I had collected to place very large plants in. Dry-cleaning bags or large plastic bags from bedding items were handy for this.

I had purchased 45-quart clear plastic bins with clear lids to place my streps in. Some of my streps were smaller and could easily fit into the 2-gallon plastic bags and remain on



the plant stands. I wick water all my plants, so since the larger streps would be sharing bins together, I slipped each pot into a fold-over-top sandwich bag. This served several purposes: preventing the spillage of soil, keeping the container cleaner and helping me rewet the strings later.



Each of my strep pots have a label on the pot and a plastic plant label in the pot with the strep's name. The plastic plant label was removed and placed on the reservoir so that when returning my streps later I could find their previous watering reservoir.



When the windows were replaced, which took three days, all my plants were covered or in sealed enclosures. Once the remodel was complete, I hung new yellow sticky cards on all the shelves. Then I began a spray schedule for eliminating pests such as thrips and mites if they had found their way in. I sprayed the plant stands and the areas around them with Akari (5% Fenpyroximate) liquid and Imidacloprid liquid 21.4% (a spray combination recommendation from the article "How Best to Protect African Violets from INSV and Other Viruses" by Ronn Nadeau found on the AVSA website). Then the house was closed up and no one stayed there after the spraying.

The next day, I returned and checked the sticky cards. Finding nothing had landed on the cards, I waited one day and then put the plants back on the shelves. Since the strep strings had become dry by this time, I poured a little water into the fold-over-top sandwich bag that was around each pot and got the strings wet easily before placing them back on their reservoir. I sprayed all the plants with the same pesticide mixture as mentioned before. Again, the house was shut up and no one was present for several days. Over the next three weeks, I monitored the yellow sticky cards for any signs of thrips. I continued the spray regimen once weekly for three weeks. I also continued to disbud for three months.

One lesson I learned was that it was easier to lay my plant's tag on the watering reservoir rather than taping the label to the side. The taped label was difficult to remove and slowed down the process of returning plants to their reservoirs. I have not found any sign of trouble with the plants and while this was a lot of work, it has paid off in keeping my plants pest-free.



Photo credit: Svetlana Repkina

## **RS-Solnechnoe Kruzhevo**

Hybridized by: S. Repkina  
Standard



# New in the AVSA Store

2024 African Violet Society of America Calendar



**Only \$15**

**Perfect for:**

- Holiday gifts
- Your home, office, workroom or potting shed
- Club raffle prizes

**Order yours now!**

[www.avsa.org](http://www.avsa.org)

# Fun Day Trips to Explore Phoenix Before, During or After Convention

By Candace Baldwin

Email: [conventionchair@avsa.org](mailto:conventionchair@avsa.org)

Plan a little extra time to adventure out and explore the Phoenix area while you're in town for the AVSA Annual Convention April 21 to 28.

Southwestern arts and hip eateries line the streets of Old Town Scottsdale, a lively and walkable district with a history dating back about 150 years. If you're hunting for a souvenir, it is home to dozens of gift shops, Native American jewelry stores, unique clothing boutiques and art galleries. The district offers authentic souvenirs and quirky keepsakes with an Arizona flavor. Visitors can shop for cowboy boots, turquoise Native

American jewelry, Mexican blankets and prickly pear jam at the slew of boutiques lining this Old West-themed district.

Taliesin West was Frank Lloyd Wright's winter home. Tours offer insight on how the masterful architect was inspired by the desert surroundings. Visitors walk through rooms, gardens, walkways and Wright's entertainment pavilion on the grounds while learning about his organic architecture.



Photo credit: Michelle Klatt



Taliesin West. Photo credit: Andrew Pielage

Butterfly Wonderland, featuring the largest butterfly conservatory in the country with thousands of fluttering butterflies, transports

guests of all ages to the rainforest by immersing them in the world of butterflies and other rainforest animals. Live exhibits connect people to nature through a sensory experience that educates, entertains and provides a refuge from the outside world. Learn about monarch migration in a captivating 3D movie, observe live chrysalises as they hatch beautiful butterflies, spend ample time strolling through the conservatory with the butterflies, get up close to unique reptiles that inhabit rainforests across the world and even indulge in edible insects!

See, hear and even play instruments from every corner of the world in a one-of-a-kind collection at the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM). The MIM tunes you into thousands of instrument sounds with a headset that syncs seamlessly as you move through its galleries.

Spend an afternoon at the Eddie Basha Collection, one of the largest privately owned collections of contemporary Western American and American Indian art in the world. The collection features over 3,000 pieces of art in a vast array of oil paintings, watercolors, wood-turned bowls, basketry, pottery, Kachinas and jewelry. The gallery is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is free to the public.

Pueblo Grande Museum is an archaeological site once inhabited by the Hohokam culture. It's a national historic landmark and part of the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department since 1929 and is the largest preserved archaeological site in Phoenix. A fully accessible 2/3-mile trail takes you

through a prehistoric Hohokam archaeological site with a platform mound, ball court and replicated houses. Three galleries display artifacts and information on the Hohokam and village site and include a hands-on children's gallery.



Photo credit: Kerrick James

The Southwest's largest shopping destinations are each only 20 minutes away from the hotel. Scottsdale Fashion Square has more than 250 distinctive retailers, including Nordstrom and Neiman Marcus. Biltmore Fashion Park is Arizona's original outdoor luxury shopping center and is known as the "crown jewel" because of its regal history and unmatched ambiance. The Biltmore features lush gardens and relaxing fountains and boasts the state's only Saks Fifth Avenue.

# SAVE THE DATE!

## 2024 AVSA CONVENTION



**April 21-28, 2024**

**DoubleTree by Hilton  
Hotel Phoenix Tempe**

2100 S Priest Dr, Tempe, AZ 85282

Show and salesroom open to the public:

Friday, April 26, 9AM - 5PM

Saturday, April 27, 9AM - 3PM

\$5 admission fee

Hosted by:







Photo credit: Elena Korshunova

### **EK-Veselaia Klumba**

Hybridized by: E. Korshunova  
Standard



Photo credit: Galina Lazarenko

### **LiK-Esenenskii Koster**

Hybridized by: G. Lazarenko  
Standard





# AV Creative Corner: Hat Contest

By Rich Follett

Email: [avcreativecorner@gmail.com](mailto:avcreativecorner@gmail.com)

Calling all creatives! AVSA is holding a Hat Contest. We are looking for original hats that suggest some aspect of the African violet hobby. The hats could be artistic, imaginative, educational, comical or clever.

Here are the rules: Entrants must make an original hat that features African violets in some form. They must then take a photo of themselves or someone else wearing the hat. Only AVSA members can enter.

Entry photos should have a resolution of at least 300 pixels per inch and be submitted to [marketing@avsa.org](mailto:marketing@avsa.org) no later than January 31, 2024. Entries should include the following information: first and last name, AVSA membership number, phone number, street address and a statement of what the hat represents or means. Entrant owns the copyright of the photos and grants permission to AVSA to use the photos in social media and print.

Selected hats will appear in the March/April 2024 issue of *African Violet Magazine* and on the AVSA website for voting. The public will be invited to vote for their favorite hat between March 1 and March 31. One vote per person. The winner will be announced at the 2024 AVSA Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, and in the May/June 2024 *AVM*.

A prize will be awarded to the entry receiving the most votes. The winner can choose either

First Class for All software (value \$40), which is the official registration and listing information for nearly 20,000 African violet cultivars, or a three-year subscription for updates to the First Class for All database (value \$33).

Selected hats will  
appear in the  
March/April 2024  
issue of *African  
Violet Magazine*  
and on the AVSA  
website for voting.

What will your hat look like? Will it be a wide-brimmed straw creation with African violets nestled on the brim? A ball cap with fabric AVs sewn on? A fabulous fascinator brimming with flowers, feathers and fruits? We can't wait to see your ideas. More details on the Hat Contest can be found at [www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org/hat-contest](http://www.africanviolet.societyofamerica.org/hat-contest). Contact Marketing Committee Chair Chris Brooks with any additional questions, then design away.

# When I am Invited to Give a Talk on African Violets

By Leonard Re

Email: buffboy83@gmail.com

When I am invited to give a talk on African violets, I always thank the inviter for the invitation. This is important to establish an initial rapport. I then inquire as to their goals for the discussion. Most of the groups will be other African violet clubs, gesneriad chapters or garden clubs. I have also given talks at senior citizen organizations, grammar and junior high schools, and county fairs. These all require different approaches. However, I always discuss soil mixes, watering methods, fertilizers, lighting, temperature, humidity and repotting. I lightly touch on insects and viruses and caution them when using chemicals.

After about 15 to 20 minutes of talking about the above items, I do a repotting demonstration. I usually bring a plant that is in bloom. I do this so I can enjoy the gasps from the audience when I remove all the blooms! I do explain why this is done. Also, I show them how to start a plant from a leaf.

I find it is important to bring samples of everything. I bring my current soil mix and pass it around so they get to feel and touch it. I use four or five different fertilizers and give them a non-scientific explanation of the numbers that appear on the fertilizer bottles (12-36-17) and explain why I alternate fertilizers. Also, I bring the different size plastic pots that I use.

I find it is important to bring samples of everything. I bring my current soil mix and pass it around so they get to feel and touch it.

The meeting is then open for the Q&A.

At the end, I always recommend they look at the AVSA website and join AVSA. I bring along Pauline Bartholomew's "Growing to Show: How to Grow Prize Winning African Violets" and Ruth Jo McCoy's "Floral Design Concepts with African Violets and Other Gesneriads" for further information. And most importantly, I tell them to contact me if they have any further questions. I have had people call days later and ask if they could stop by with their plants so I can help repot or diagnose a problem.

# Decoupage Water Reservoirs to Minimize Algae

By Cilene Magnine

Email: [cilenez@gmail.com](mailto:cilenez@gmail.com)

Decoupage on glass is a simple yet effective technique that allows you to upgrade everyday glass items. It is a versatile and accessible craft that anyone can enjoy. In this tutorial, we are using decorative napkins or paper to help block light from penetrating glass water reservoirs and allowing algae to grow. Follow these step-by-step instructions to adhere napkins or other paper to glass surfaces using Mod Podge Dishwasher Safe Formula.

## Gather Your Supplies

- Glass items (yogurt jars, Mason jars, vase, stemware, etc.)
- Mod Podge Dishwasher Safe Formula
- White acrylic paint
- Napkin, scrapbook paper or other paper with a design you like
- 1-inch flat paintbrush
- Scissors or craft knife
- Masking tape
- Rubbing alcohol or glass cleaner
- Paper towels



## Clean the Glass Surface

Before you begin, make sure the glass is clean and free of any dirt, grease, adhesive or fingerprints. You can use rubbing alcohol or a glass cleaner for this. This step may take a little elbow grease. Allow the glass to dry completely before moving on to the next step.

## Apply a Base Coat (Optional)

This will “frost” the glass and is optional for the napkin application. Mix a few drops of white paint into a small amount of Mod Podge and mix well. Using a paintbrush, apply a thin layer over the outside of the glass. Allow it to completely dry. This will create a frosted look that will help block out more light.



## Prepare the Napkin or Paper

Most napkins have multiple layers. Gently separate those layers, keeping only the top layer with the design. This will make it easier to apply the napkin to the glass and give it a smoother finish.

Next, cut or tear the napkin into the desired size and shape. You can cut out specific elements of the design or create a collage using different pieces. If you're using paper, cut strips of scrapbook paper to wrap around the glass jar as well as several motifs to be added to the paper wraps.

### **Apply Mod Podge to the Glass**

Using a paintbrush, apply a thin layer of Mod Podge to the area of the glass where you want to place the napkin. Make sure to cover an area slightly larger than the napkin piece itself.

### **Prepare the Paper**

If the paper you choose is too stiff to shape, dampen the back of the paper with water to make it more pliable before applying any Mod Podge to it. Next, apply a coat of Mod Podge Dishwasher Safe to the back of the paper.

### **Position the Napkin or Paper**

Carefully place the napkin or paper on the Mod Podge-coated area of the glass with the design side facing outward, slightly overlapping the ends as necessary. Leave a viewing window to monitor the water level (you can use the masking tape to outline a viewing window on the glass). Lightly load the paintbrush with Mod Podge and carefully brush it over the napkin or paper to position it properly. Start from the center and work your way out to the edges to avoid creating more wrinkles. Be gentle, as the napkin or paper can easily tear when wet.

### **Seal the Napkin or Paper with Mod Podge**

Once the napkin or paper is in place and smooth, apply another thin layer of Mod Podge on top using a paintbrush. This will help seal the napkin or paper and ensure it adheres properly to the glass. Make sure to cover the entire napkin or paper and extend it a bit beyond the edges.



### **Allow the Container to Dry**

Let the Mod Podge dry for a few hours or until it is clear and no longer tacky. The drying time may vary depending on temperature and humidity.

### **Apply Additional Coats (Optional)**

For added durability and a smoother finish, you can apply additional coats of Mod Podge Dishwasher Safe, allowing each coat to dry completely before adding the next one. Once all the surfaces are covered, allow them to set for approximately one hour. The top coats are applied to protect and seal the paper to the glass. It is very important to follow these instructions exactly.

### **Tips for Successful Glass Decoupage**

- Use rubbing alcohol to remove any residue from your glass surface.
- You can soften firm cardstock with a damp paper towel to make it easier to shape to your glass surface.
- Use a paintbrush rather than a sponge applicator. Paintbrushes create a smooth finish, whereas sponge applicators can create additional air bubbles.
- Allow 28 days for your decoupage glass surface to cure completely.
- Cured projects can be washed by hand or on the top rack of your dishwasher.

# Treasures to Adore

By Hollye Knox

Email: [hollyeknox@gmail.com](mailto:hollyeknox@gmail.com)

In the heart of Africa an old place was found,  
Discovered by Baron von Saint Paul, renowned,  
A small country called Tanzania - calls  
Where African violets captivated all.

Through hands and hearts they journeyed far,  
Now you will find them where you are!  
Nurtured and cherished, they found their way,  
To homes and gardens in our worldly array.

With dedication they stayed alive;  
The little plants stayed right by our side.  
Tenderly nurtured they began to bloom,  
In rooms with sadness they banished all gloom.

Through trials and triumphs they evolved,  
Their beauty and charm the world resolved.  
Over 10,000 varieties now stand,  
A tribute to those with a nurturing hand.

To all who kept them growing with care,  
For the joy they bring we're grateful to share,  
From Baron von Saint Paul to countless more,  
African violets thrive - treasures to adore.

So let's raise our glasses and hearts up high,  
To those who made the violets touch the great sky,  
With love and devotion they'll forever thrive,  
African violets are a legacy to keep eternally alive.

*Editor's Note: This poem is an excerpt from the forthcoming book "African Violets: Poems for African Violet Lovers" by Hollye Knox. We will share details on the book's publication date when it becomes available.*



# Fund Reports for July/August 2023

By Randy G. Deutsch and Janet Riemer

Email: [fundraising@avsa.org](mailto:fundraising@avsa.org)

## **Anne & Frank Tinari**

### **Endowment Fund: \$22**

The Anne & Frank Tinari Endowment Fund supports the long-term stability of the Society.

#### ■ **Under \$25**

Linda Bellmare, Fargo, ND  
Betsy Branson, Sellersville, PA  
Joanna Inferrera, Hammonton, NJ

### **Barbara Burde Endowment Fund: \$5**

The Barbara Burde Endowment Fund supports the society's long-term needs in technology.

#### ■ **Under \$25**

Lola Sutherland, Prather, CA

### **Booster Donations: \$400**

Booster Donations support AVSA's ongoing general expenses.

#### ■ **\$100 to \$199**

David Finley, Colleyville, TX  
Marian Schaaf, Independence, MO  
(In memory of Tricia Taylor)

#### ■ **\$50 to \$99**

Linda Greiss, Jefferson, GA  
Brent Johnson, Columbus, OH

#### ■ **\$25 to \$49**

Robert Kurzynksi, Clifton, NJ

#### ■ **Under \$25**

LuAnn Christenson, Eldridge, IA  
Linda Garramone, Bay Shore, NY  
Jim Schrader, Yorba Linda, CA  
Sandi Soto, Tampa, FL  
Wilma Wolverton, Grain Valley, MO

### **Boyce Edens Research Fund: \$145**

The Boyce Edens Research Fund supports research and scholarships.

#### ■ **\$50 to \$99**

Carolee Carter, Ocala, FL  
Glitter Gulch AV Growers, NV

#### ■ **Under \$25**

Linda Garramone, Bay Shore, NY  
Linda Bellemare, Fargo, ND  
Roxane Babin, Canada  
Ann Athey, Denton, TX

## **Thank You to Our Luncheon Auction Donors**

We had many beautiful items at the well-attended Luncheon Auction at the Atlanta Convention. Several items this year were handmade with love, from quilts to scarves to hand-painted goblets. AVSA is so fortunate to have members who generously

donate items and/or generously bid to win. We raised over \$3,000 at the event. We wish there was more that could be done to show appreciation than just saying "thank you." AVSA is filled with amazing people who give their time, money and energy.



**UNITED STATES**  
**POSTAL SERVICE®**

**Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation**  
**(All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)**

1. Publication Title <b>African Violet Magazine</b>	2. Publication Number 0 0 - 9 0 2 0	3. Filing Date <b>09/20/2023</b>
4. Issue Frequency <b>Bi-Monthly</b>	5. Number of Issues Published Annually <b>6</b>	6. Annual Subscription Price <b>\$35.00</b>
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) <b>4795 College Street Unit A, Beaumont (Jefferson), TX 77707</b>		Contact Person <b>Amy Carruth</b> Telephone (Include area code) <b>(409) 839-4725</b>
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) <b>4795 College Street Unit A, Beaumont (Jefferson), TX 77707</b>		

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)

Publisher (Name and complete mailing address)  
**African Violet Society of America, Inc.**  
**4795 College Street Unit A, Beaumont (Jefferson), TX 77707**

Editor (Name and complete mailing address)  
**Sophia Bennett**  
**PO Box 22417**  
**Beaumont, TX 77707**

Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address)  
**N/A**

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
<b>African Violet Society of America, Inc.</b>	<b>4795 College Street Unit A, Beaumont (Jefferson), 77707</b>

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box ☒ None

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)  
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:  
☒ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months  
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

<b>13. Publication Title</b> African Violet Magazine		<b>14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below</b> 09/01/2023		
<b>15. Extent and Nature of Circulation</b> Members		<b>Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months</b>	<b>No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date</b>	
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		3050	2900	
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1)	Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	2496	2446
	(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	5	0
	(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	25	25
	(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	261	241
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		2787	2712	
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		
	(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541		
	(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	4	3
	(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		4	3	
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		2791	2715	
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		259	185	
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		3050	2900	
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		99.86%	99.89%	

\*If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

<b>16. Electronic Copy Circulation</b>		
a. Paid Electronic Copies	104	110
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	2891	2822
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	2895	2825
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c × 100)	99.86%	99.89%

☒ I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

<b>17. Publication of Statement of Ownership</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the <u>11/01/2023</u> issue of this publication.	<input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.

<b>18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner</b> Office Manager	<b>Date</b> 09/20/2023
---	---------------------------

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

# In Memory

## **Vickie Seley**

On July 17, the Evening African Violet Club of Des Moines, Iowa, lost Vickie Seley, a valued member of our organization. Her sudden demise made the shock of her passing even greater.

Vickie was a true asset to our club. She was the member of longest standing and always contributed to our endeavors. Vickie faithfully attended meetings and had an hour-long commute to do so.

Although she did not hold office, she supported all we did and took on tasks that required tremendous effort and follow-through. Her friendship and knowledge were valued by all our members. It is so important that we recognize the efforts of our members that truly enrich all of our clubs.

## **Jere (Jerry) Trigg**

One of AVSA's cherished members, Jere (Jerry) Trigg, 76, passed away October 11. Jere was a talented grower and hybridizer of African violets and a Master Gardener. He began growing African violets in the mid-1970s and started hybridizing as far back as 1980. He became a much more active hybridizer

after his retirement in 2011. His named varieties include Jere's Star Burst, Jere's Cranberry Spinner, Jere's Lunar Eclipse, Jere's Roll Tide and Jere's Kaleidoscope. He was also known for sharing his knowledge through presentations given at AVSA affiliated clubs, to other interested groups and on Facebook. He was a kind man and generous with his time and knowledge of African violets to many in our violet community.

We could all learn from Jere's example of being willing to share his knowledge and plants with new growers and hybridizers. This hobby is about growing beautiful African violets but more importantly, it's about sharing our love of violets with others.

Jere will be greatly missed by his sons Marshal and Tyler, many other friends and family, as well as the African violet community. You can leave messages of condolence on his Facebook page and are encouraged to plant a tree or grow a violet in his honor. There is also a new Facebook group, The Jere Trigg Legacy African Violet Collectors Club, established in his memory to continue the cultivation of his varieties.



## APPLICATION TO JOIN The African Violet Society of America, Inc.

P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, Texas 77720

409-839-4725 • office@avsa.org

www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org

African  
Violet  
Society of  
America

# Join

☐ New Member   ☐ Renewal Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Membership runs one year from the date paid and includes six issues of the African Violet Magazine. Dues are not refundable.

- ☐ Individual Membership USA (\$35)
- ☐ Individual Digital Membership (Global) USA and International (\$28)
- ☐ Associate Member (\$17.50)  
(Must reside with an AVSA member, no magazine included)
- ☐ International Individual, Canada and Mexico (\$40)
- ☐ International Individual, other than Canada and Mexico (\$60)
- ☐ Commercial, Global (\$50)
- ☐ Affiliate Chapter, all levels, USA (\$35)
- ☐ Affiliate Chapter, all levels, Canada and Mexico (\$40)
- ☐ Affiliate Chapter, International other than Canada and Mexico (\$45)
- ☐ Library (\$35)
- ☐ Life Member USA (\$1,000)
- ☐ Life Member Canada and Mexico (\$1,250)
- ☐ Life Member International (\$1,500)



Please print neatly below or apply online at [www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org/membership](http://www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org/membership)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

VISA/MC accepted; or make your check payable to AVSA, Inc.

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

CVV2 Security Code # \_\_\_\_\_ (last three digits on back of the card)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

International applicants not using credit card may pay in US dollars with a draft or check on a USA bank.

International Postal money orders accepted. Paypal is available with online application.

Were you encouraged to join AVSA by a particular individual, vendor or group?

If so, please enter their name here: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership  
runs one year  
from the date paid  
and includes six  
issues of the  
African Violet  
Magazine.

Another benefit of  
AVSA membership is  
reduced pricing on  
many store items.

## AVSA DONATIONS

Please indicate the amount of your donation in the blank.

AVSA is a 501(c)3 organization.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Booster (general, ongoing expenses of AVSA)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Boyce Research Edens (research & scholarships)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Barbara Burde Endowment Fund (long-term technology)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Anne & Frank Tinari Endowment Fund (long-term stability of AVSA)
- Special instructions: \_\_\_\_\_



TOTAL DONATION: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## ORDER FORM

### The African Violet Society of America, Inc.

Orders may be mailed using this form, by phone, or placed online.

Item: Pricing: Member/Public

#### MASTER VARIETY LISTS (MVLs)

138 NEW MVL #16 (2020)	40.00/48.50
415 First Class 2 Update Online (1 year)	11.00

#### CULTURE FOLDERS

106 Regular version (per 100)	17.75/21.25
106 Regular version International Member (per 100)	21.25

#### BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS

302 Growers & Judges Handbook (2022)	30.00/60.00
436 Growing To Show ('08)	19.95/29.95
417 50th Anniversary Book	23.75/30.00
YOU CAN Grow African Violets by Kent & Joyce Stork	16.00/18.95
113 AVSA Guide Book (for affiliates)	2.00
413 Insect & Mite Pests of African Violets	15.00/23.00
512 2020 AVSA Calendar	5.00
513 2021 AVSA Calendar	5.00
514 2022 AVSA Calendar	5.00
AVM Back Issues	ea. 5.00

#### MISCELLANEOUS

109 Show Entry Tags (per 100)	12.50
121 AVSA Neck Wallet	5.00
128 Eyeglass Cleaner	2.00

#### CD ROMS (FOR COMPUTERS)

213 CD African Violet Troubles	10.00/12.00
214 CD The Other Gesneriads	10.00/12.00
215 CD The Pittman Way Of Growing Violets	10.00/12.00
223 CD The Once & Future Violet 2010	10.00/12.00

#### DVD

218 DVD African Violet Trailers (Bev Promersberger)	15.00/17.00
219 DVD Understanding The African Violet Species (2 DVD Set)	25.00/27.00
221 DVD Growing Violet Trailers (Bill Price)	15.00/17.00
222 DVD Species To Spectacular (Pat Hancock)	15.00/17.00
226 DVD Meet the Commercials	15.00/17.00
227 DVD Violets Dance Across Texas 2013	15.00/17.00
228 DVD Violet Pickin' In Tennessee 2014	15.00/17.00
229 DVD Violets Love KC Jazz, Blues and BBQ 2015	15.00/17.00
230 DVD Violets Color The Land Of Enchantment 2016	15.00/17.00
230 TD Violets Color The Land Of Enchantment 2016 (Thumb Drive)	15.00/17.00
231 TD AVSA Convention Programs	15.00/17.00
231 DVD AVSA Convention Programs	15.00/17.00
232 TD Gateway to the Tropics 2017	15.00/17.00
232 DVD Gateway to the Tropics 2017	15.00/17.00
233 DVD Perfectly Pittman DVD	20.00/25.00
233 TD Perfectly Pittman Thumbdrive	20.00/25.00

#### AVSA JEWELRY

50th Anniversary Pin	5.00
75th Anniversary Pin	6.00

#### ORDERED BY: (Please Print):

Address (Include Street Address for UPS):

City, State or Country, Zip:

MEMBERSHIP No.:

Make your check payable to AVSA, Inc.  
VISA/MC accepted on purchases over \$25 (on phone orders only); or Paypal payments are accepted with online orders.

#### CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

CC#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV2 Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
(3 digit # on back of card)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMERS not using credit card must pay in US dollars with a draft or check on a USA bank.

\$25 service charge on all returned checks.

Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery in the USA; 2-3 months outside the US by surface mail. Prices do not include flat-rate shipping and handling fee.

Flat-rate shipping/handling charge on all orders except downloads.  
USA-\$5.00, Canada and Mexico-\$10.00 and International-\$15.00

SUB TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

SHIPPING: \_\_\_\_\_

Texas residents must add sales tax TAX: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Shop**  
**AVSA Store**



P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, Texas 77720  
409-839-4725 • office@avsa.org  
www.africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org

Another benefit of AVSA membership is reduced pricing on many store items.

Return to AVSA Office • P.O. Box 22417, Beaumont, Texas 77720



Photo credit: Marina Karpova

### ***Streptocarpus* 'MK-Miroslava'**

Hybridized by: M. Karpova



Membership includes: Welcome package for new members; Quarterly issues of *Gesneriads*, the Journal for Gesneriad Growers; access to the Seed Fund; downloadable PDF copies of the journal

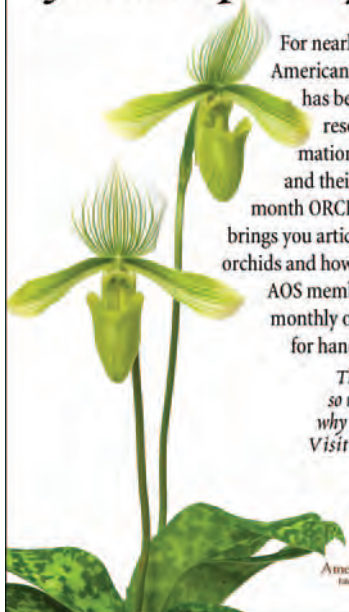


**Bob Clark, Dept. AV**  
1122 East Pike St, PMB 637  
Seattle, WA 98122-3916 USA

**Individual 1 year \$25, 3 years \$70 (\$30,\$85 outside US)**  
**Family 1 year \$26, 3 years \$73 (\$31,\$88 outside US)**  
**Green option (PDF only) 1 year \$20, 3 years \$55**

Visit us at: [www.gesneriads.org](http://www.gesneriads.org)

## Orchids. Exotic, long-lasting flowers steeped in mystery.



For nearly 100 years the American Orchid Society has been the premier resource for information about orchids and their culture. Each month ORCHIDS magazine brings you articles on featured orchids and how to grow them. AOS members can attend monthly online webinars for hands-on learning.

*The AOS has  
so much to offer,  
why not join today?  
Visit [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org).*



American Orchid Society  
Education • Conservation • Research

## Your Ad Could Go Here

If you sell products African violet hobby growers or hybridizers might use, place your ad in *African Violet Magazine*. AVSA Commercial members receive a discounted rate for ads and a listing with links on our website, plus other special promotions in the magazine and online.

Contact Richard Craft,  
AVSA Advertising Chair, at  
[advertising@avsa.org](mailto:advertising@avsa.org) for more  
information. We hope to see your  
ad here in the next issue!



## AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF CANADA

*Join AVSC & become a part of an international network of growers*  
**Members will receive Chatter, our Quarterly Magazine**

Individual Membership: 1 year \$20.00, 2 year \$37.50, 3 year \$55.00.  
Family, USA & International Memberships Available.

For more information visit [www.avsc.ca](http://www.avsc.ca)  
or contact **Laurel Goretsky** at:  
32 Scimitar Point NW Phone: (403) 241-8300  
Calgary AB T3L 2B2 Email: [laurel@goretsky.ca](mailto:laurel@goretsky.ca)







## Enchanted Gardens

Heidi Dillenbeck

1097 Darby Hill Rd • Delanson, NY 12053 • (518) 895-6054

[heidisviolets@gmail.com](mailto:heidisviolets@gmail.com)

[www.enchantedgardensplantsupplies.com/](http://www.enchantedgardensplantsupplies.com/)

Plastic pots - 1 1/4" to 8" (round-square-pan) Oyama Pots

Wick water reservoirs

Permanest Trays • 3" and 6" Clear Domes Labels

Leaf Support Rings (6"-9"-13") Fertilizers

Accessories: Sucker pluckers • brushes • scissors • tweezers

*and much more ...*

For catalog: pdf – send email or for printed catalog send me a note



[www.josviolets.com](http://www.josviolets.com)  
(361) 575-1344

Email: [plants@josviolets.com](mailto:plants@josviolets.com)

**African Violets  
Petrocosmeas  
Primulinas  
and More**

Facebook: [josviolets](https://www.facebook.com/josviolets)



## Dave's Violets

AND OTHER GEMMEMBERS

Sinningia Heaven - Home of the Ozark series

*"It's a sin not to own a sinningia"*



[DavesViolets.com](http://DavesViolets.com) | (417) 887-8904

## Glenda's House of Violets

Offering one-stop-shopping for gardening supplies to meet the special needs of the African Violet growing community! Nursery pots, special soil blends, plant grooming tools, other specialized items to help you grow those big, beautiful plants!



512.988.1918

Glenda Williams  
829 Old Highway 20, Unit B  
McDade, TX 78650-5265

[ambrosiaviolets@gmail.com](mailto:ambrosiaviolets@gmail.com)

[www.ghviolets.com](http://www.ghviolets.com)

[www.facebook.com/ambrosiaviolets](https://www.facebook.com/ambrosiaviolets)

## DandyPot.com

Visit Our Shop in Ocala, FL



HOME OF THE ORIGINAL DANDY POT

## DandyPot.com

12 Colors  
3 Sizes

Order  
Today!



## Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses, Inc.

PO Box 249 Dolgeville, NY 13329  
14 Mutchler Street (for GPS users)

*"Where The Violets Are!"*

*Quality hybrids since 1954*

**African Violets, Aeschynanthus,  
Primulinas, Codonanthe,  
Columnneas, Episcias, Kohlerias,  
Nematanthus, Orchids,  
Petrocosmeas, Rex Begonias,  
Streptocarpus, other assorted  
Gesneriads, and SO much more!**

Our greenhouses are open year round.  
No appointments necessary!

Call for hours! Phone (315) 429 8291

Visit our website at:  
[www.lyndonlyon.com](http://www.lyndonlyon.com)

## **PHYSAN 20™ Controls African Violet Pathogens**

- Controls algae on mats, wicks, reservoirs, trays, pots, benches, and work surfaces.
- Controls damping off on seedlings and plants.
- Controls crown rot, powdery mildew, botrytis.
- Controls diseases spread by disinfecting tools.

Let those pesky visitors know they're not wanted. Take control with **PHYSAN 20.**



**Maril Products**  
15421 Red Hill Ave., Ste D  
Tustin, CA 92780  
714-544-7711  
[www.physan.com](http://www.physan.com)

# GROWING TO SHOW



AVAILABLE IN THE AVSA STORE

HOW TO GROW PRIZE-WINNING



**AFRICAN VIOLETS**

*By Pauline Bartholomew and The African Violet Society of America, Inc.*

*Revised 2008*





**Swift**  
MOIST-RITE PLANTER, LLC  
Self-watering flower pot

**Swift  
Moist-Rite**

**The choice  
of champion  
growers  
since 1975!**

Proudly made entirely in the U.S.A.  
The Swift Moist-Rite now comes in 6 colors:  
white, green, terracotta, lavender, sky blue, and black.

**Swift** Moist-Rite  
P.O. Box 141482 • Broken Arrow, OK 74014  
**(918) 951-3014**  
Paypal.me/moistriteplanter  
moistriteplanters19@aol.com  
Please visit our website: [Swiftmoistriteplanters.com](http://Swiftmoistriteplanters.com)

Individual and wholesale accounts welcome.



**VioletSupply.com**

**Arcadia™ African Violet Mix**

High quality blend of  
sphagnum, vermiculite, coir  
and hydrocks.

"Wick Mix" also available.

Contact Us for a **FREE CATALOG**

**440-357-0022**

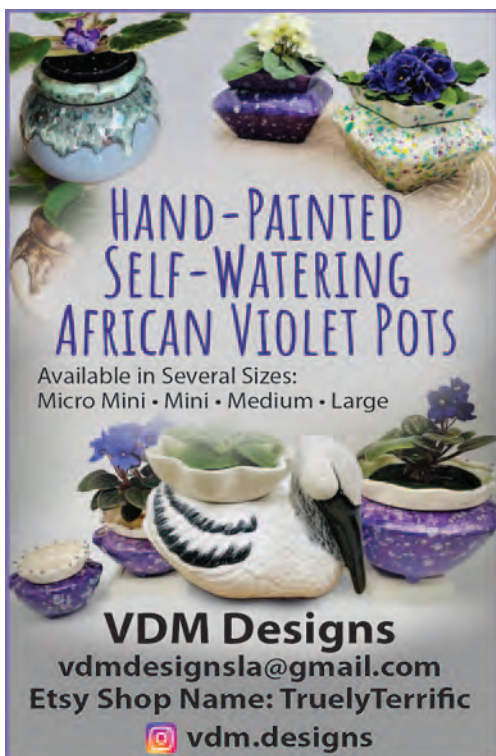
[www.VioletSupply.com](http://www.VioletSupply.com)

- Beautiful Clay Pots
- Oyama Pots
- T5 Grow Lights
- Humidity Trays
- Urea-free Fertilizer
- Leaf Rings

**AVSA Office Hours**


**Monday - Thursday**

**9:00 am - 4:00 pm**



**HAND-PAINTED  
SELF-WATERING  
AFRICAN VIOLET POTS**

Available in Several Sizes:  
Micro Mini • Mini • Medium • Large

**VDM Designs**  
[vdmdesignsla@gmail.com](mailto:vdmdesignsla@gmail.com)  
Etsy Shop Name: TrulyTerrific  
 [vdm.designs](https://www.instagram.com/vdm.designs)

**RRR**

**Rolling Ridge Rosettes**

Formerly Jan's Workshop

Elmer Godeny, Owner

918-804-7308

email: [RollingRidgeRosettes@gmail.com](mailto:RollingRidgeRosettes@gmail.com)





**Safely shipping to satisfied customers  
world-wide since 1985!**

**Looking for African violets? We have them!**

Over 30,000 plants in our shop, barn, and greenroom

Catalog, care tips, 'how to' lessons, and more, at

**[www.violetbarn.com](http://www.violetbarn.com)**

**Exhibitor, collector, or hobbyist? We have plants for everyone.**



Hundreds of varieties, including our award winning "Rob's" and "Ma's" varieties.

At left: one of our 'Ma's' standard varieties grown by Alexandra Kravtsov

A large selection of chimeras, Saintpaulia species, and our popular trailing varieties!  
Plus, the latest hybrids from Russia and Ukraine

**View the website for a full listing and our "Seller's choice" specials.**

**We also grow a huge selection of 'other' gesneriads!**

We're famous for our '**Bristol**' streptocarpus hybrids

Compact, often double flowered, some scented!

Many more, including latest Polish and  
Russian varieties



**And more! like Episcias** (above right)

Huge listing of **Kohleria** (far left) and  
gesneriads for baskets, like **Columnnea**

Adorable miniature gesneriads for  
small containers and terrariums!



We are also the source for miniature container and terrarium plants. These are truly miniature plants.

**View the website for an extensive listing and for our "Seller's choice" specials.**

**Shipping:** April 15-October 31 via USPS priority mail

**We ship in winter!** By express mail only. Visit website for details and pricing.

**We ship anywhere (internationally), anytime – safe delivery guaranteed!**

**If you see it, we have it, if you order it, you get it – no substitutes! Orders shipped next week.**

**Subscribe to our e-newsletter, 'VioletsFun' – growing tips, latest varieties, coupons, and more!**

You can also find us on 'Facebook' ([www.facebook.com/africanviolets](http://www.facebook.com/africanviolets)) and on 'Pinterest'.

**Dr. Ralph (Rob) & Olive Ma Robinson, owners**  
**PO Box 9, Naples, NY 14512**

**Phone: 585-374-8592 Fax: 585-374-6947**  
*Phone orders Monday-Saturday 12-5 pm, web orders anytime*